

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND
China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LXII.]

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, 4TH NOVEMBER, 1905.

No. 19

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BIRTHS.

On 24th October, at Shanghai, the wife of Mr. C. JOSEPHSON, of a son.

On 29th September, at Plymouth, England, the wife of Mr. A. W. WHITLOW, Hongkong, a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On 20th September, in America, EDGAR GILMAN PRATT, second son of Capt NICHOLS PRATT, of Shanghai, to Miss ALICE RIPLEY.

On 25th October, at Shanghai, JOHN CLARENCE SHENGLER, of Philadelphia, U.S.A., to MABEL, only daughter of the late JOHN STEWART NAZER and Mrs. FLORENCE NAZER, of Shanghai.

On 25th October, at Shanghai, WILLIAM ARTHUR BARLOW WHEELER, Imperial Maritime Customs, to GERTRUDE MAUD HOLLINGSWORTH.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The English Mail of October 6th and the French Mail of September 29th arrived, per the ss. *Bengal*, on Thursday, the 2nd instant.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

The Russo-Chinese Bank at Yokohama has re-opened.

The plague total remains unaltered at 295 cases and 278 deaths.

Admiral Togo expects the *Mikasa* to be refitted before the present year expires.

The name of Mr. Philip Jacks has been added to the official list of Justices of the Peace.

Lieutenant H. D. Belgrave, 2nd R.W.K., has qualified, with distinction, in musketry, first class.

It is reported that M. Ginsburg arrived at Nagasaki on his way to Yokohama, where he intends to re-open his office.

The *Chafoo Daily News* complains that inconvenience is being caused by the refusal of the Japanese bank and post office there to accept the Japanese "war notes," of which there are many in circulation.

It is reported that the shock caused by the blowing up of the steamer *Chatham* in the Suez Canal was distinctly recorded by seismographic instruments at Simla. This will cause some to doubt the value of earthquake records.

The Philippines Government is considering the case of native theatres which produce plays introducing scenes from insurrecto and bandit life. It is claimed that these plays cause natives to take to the woods, there to emulate the deeds done on the stage.

A censor has memorialised the Throne asking that the Board of Revenue be commanded to draw up rules relating to the coining and circulation of the cash copper pieces, with the object of securing uniformity in their weight, value, and design.

The Volunteer camp at Stonecutters' Island was concluded on October 30, when those, who had not taken their departure the previous day, performed the customary fatigue duties and afterwards returned to Hongkong. The camp is declared to have been eminently successful.

A Peking telegram to the *N.C. Daily News* says:—Germany has concluded a Postal Agreement with China, by which all the German post offices along the line of the Shantung railway will be closed, and the business handed over to the Chinese Imperial Post Office.

A *N.C. Daily News* telegram says:—A certain Russian merchant is now negotiating with the Kharachin tribes of Mongolia to open a gold mine at Hotalkhosen with one million roubles of capital. Upon the completion of the work another £15,000 is to be paid to the Chinese Government as royalty.

A lot of Crown Land adjoining Rural Building Lot No. 44 at Deep Water Bay, containing 112,000 square feet and bearing a Crown annual rent of \$258, was offered for sale at the office of the Public Works Department. The property was sold to Messrs. Shewan, Tomes & Co. for \$5,620, being \$20 above the upset price.

There was a crowded audience on Nov. 2 at the Union Church Literary and Debating Club, when Mr. and Mrs. David Wood provided a most enjoyable musical evening with "National Songs of the Nations." Mrs. Wood charmingly sang a song in French; Mrs. A.G. Gordon one in Italian; Mrs. W. H. Williams a Welsh song; Mr. J. D. Auld Scottish songs; Mr. W. M. Stewart English songs, Mr. Koenig two German songs, and Mr. George Grimble caused much merriment with a Chinese song. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. and Mrs. Wood and all contributors to the programme.

Spanish is to be the official language in the Manila courts for five years longer. It is feared that the decision may hinder the progress of English in the schools.

A meeting of the Kowloon Cricket Club was held at the Seamen's Institute on Nov. 1st—Mr. G. T. Loyd presiding—at which the erection of a pavilion was considered. Mr. S. Lightfoot proposed, and Dr. Swan seconded, that a permanent building be erected for the Club. An amendment that a wooden structure on brick pillars be erected was submitted by Mr. R. Stevenson and seconded by Mr. S. E. White. On going to the vote the amendment was defeated and the resolution carried. On the motion of Mr. W. Kerwen, seconded by Dr. Swan it was decided that an iron pavilion, be constructed.

Dr. King, a Chinese lady, urges the boycott leaders to set aside the funds which are being expended in protesting and propagating the movement, and employ them for the purpose of opening up the wild and uncultivated parts of Mongolia and the New Dominion, so that Chinese labourers may not find it necessary to emigrate to foreign lands to seek a livelihood, but may settle down as peaceful and prosperous agriculturists in their mother country. By thus doing, they will not only avoid the inhospitable treatment and even persecution of foreign nations, but will develop the resources of their own country.

General Meany says of "Yu-chih":—The fins and tails of sharks and dog-fish fins are generally included under this name, and are highly prized by the Chinese as food delicacies at all their feasts. Indeed, no Chinese banquet or feast is considered complete without at least one dish of Yu-chih or fish fins. This marine delicacy is usually stewed in fish broth of various kinds until it is soft and semi-transparent like jelly; shreds of fish or fowl, and white cabbage are usually added, as well as other things, to increase the volume of the dish, and I have always found it desirable and wholesome food. As an article of import, shark's fins are very valuable and find a ready market all over China, especially at Shanghai.

A witness at the Singapore Enquiry gave what the advertisement called an unsolicited testimonial. Mr. W. R. Swan, manager of the Prye River Dock, gave an account of the wharves godowns and docks at Hongkong of which he had made a recent inspection under instructions from Government. There were six graving docks at Hongkong, the largest being 576 feet long on the blocks. The largest dock at Tanjong Pagar was only 480 feet. At Hongkong there were also two new docks under construction—one by Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, at Quay Bay, 760 feet long, and another by the Admiralty, 550 feet long. There were 12 slipways at Hongkong, all larger than the largest slipway in Singapore, at Tanjong Rhu. There were two ship-building yards at Hongkong—one belonging to the Dock Company, where ships up to 500 feet long could be built; and the other to Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, the berths of which were being constructed for vessels of 600 feet. These yards would be in competition with Tanjong Pagar. The machine shops, etc., of the Dock Company at Hongkong were particularly well equipped with modern plant and appliances.

AGRICULTURAL BANKS FOR THE PHILIPPINES.

(Daily Press, 30th October.)

A special telegram to the Manila Cable-news on Oct. 21 said: "There is every reason to believe that agricultural banks in the Philippines will be favoured by Congress at its next session. The insular bureau is preparing documents to submit to the legislature, urging the establishment of an institution for the lending of money to farmers throughout the archipelago." If this anticipation be realised, it will cause gratification to many who have the well-being of the Philippines at heart, for private institutions with like aims have often been talked of, but appear to be for some not well-understood reason hard to materialize. The establishment of some such institution was mooted, it is said, long before the Americans invaded the islands; and one obstacle then, as probably now, is said to have been the uncertain title by which most of the land was held. There is still the question whether a purely government institution, with government funds and government administrators, will be found the best practicable measure for the Philippines. One fear is that it would only encourage the already evident tendency of the native to depend upon the Government as a complacent sort of universal provider. The national indolence would, it is thought, prevent clients from recognising that such assistance must involve enterprise and industry. The vulgar view of a government advance would be that it was the end, rather than the means to an end. Much embarrassment of the government would follow, the argument continues, because the department would be expected to be indulgent in collecting its dues, and a popular outcry would be sure to accompany any attempts to enforce the penalty of foreclosure—a policy certain to be needed in many cases—and there would be a Filipino variety of the Irish Land League with moonlighters and evictions and more work for the constabulary. Apart from such extreme forebodings, there would certainly be embarrassments due to the necessary rejection of some applications for loans, as accusations of injustice and partiality would be inevitable in the case of government administration. One objection, said to have been raised when the scheme for similar operations in Egypt was afoot, seems rather feeble. It is said of the Filipinos, as it was said of the Fellaheen, that they are thriftless and improvident, and would be sure to waste the money advanced to them, instead of using it to develop their farms. They (the Filipinos) would squander it in gambling attempts to increase it. Such a temptation undoubtedly exists in the case of almost any persons taking loans for agricultural purposes, but it has never been found in practice to militate against the success of such a scheme. In the case of a private bank it is a possibility that would not be considered, other conditions being in order; and it is not to be supposed that any amount of popular clamour, based on such misunderstandings as made Irish small farmers shoot their landlords, could make the government consent to the laxity of administration that would spell the ruin of the scheme. Officials all over the provinces are reported to have declared that some scheme, official or private, for advancing capital to agriculturists is most urgently needed. No one is going to dispute the general principle that credit is essential: it is, perhaps, more important to the farmer than to the man of commerce. In many

countries, special privileges are reserved for institutions which make advances for purposes of agricultural development. It is to the interest of the nation at large in such cases to do so; and in an undeveloped and admittedly fertile country like the Philippines, the heart of the Government will assuredly be in any proper scheme, private or official, directed to the exploitation of these natural resources. We have just heard of the extraordinarily high rates of interest ruling in the neighbouring islands; and it appears that it is a common practice of certain moneylenders to insist upon the privilege of purchasing the borrower's crops at a price fixed in advance, the said price being always less remunerative to the seller than to the enterprising speculator. This evil system is well known in some parts of Australia, where there are whole communities of agriculturists and farmers practically bonded slaves of these autocratic middle-men. This is a handicap which the Government would, no doubt, gladly see removed if possible. We are told that though there are semi-public institutions in the Philippines, making loans on mortgage, the demand for agricultural advances is considerably greater than the supply. It is stated in the *Cablenews* that "of the four large banking establishments in the Philippines, two, the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, are prevented by their articles of association from making advances on real estate, although both institutions have occasionally, on special permission from their head offices, made small advances on real estate security as special favours to patrons of the bank. According to the latest reports received by this office, the total outstanding loans secured by agricultural property, of the Banco Espanol-Filipino and the International Banking Corporation in the Philippines will probably not exceed P 750,000." This appears to be a trivial sum to cover the operations of two banks, and the thought arises that it may more faithfully indicate after all the extent of the "demand" said to exist for facilities to develop agriculture. As in China, so in the Philippines, primitive methods of cultivation are clung to. The farmer everywhere is proverbially conservative. It is only lately, comparatively speaking, that the British farmer has begun to take any interest in agricultural chemistry and the mechanical improvements that have been offered to him by America. The Filipino farmer, like the Chinese, appears to think that the methods and formulae of his ancestors are good enough for him. However, the purpose of the Government advances may appeal to him when he learns that they are actually obtainable. The Insular Government must see to it, when the scheme is adopted, that no attention is paid to the embarrassing features already mentioned; but conduct their institution on strictly business lines. Like Nature, they have less concern with the well-being of the individual than with that of the race. By helping the thrifty and foreclosing on the thriftless, the greatest good of the community must ensue.

"Why don't you work?" asked the magistrate in the Third Court (Singapore) to a grubber in the dustbins, who was routing for rats. "Old and ill," remarked the weary one. Asked what he wanted with rats, the grubber said to send to China. When they reached the Celestial country they, or rather their skins were transformed into the soles of shoes. "Yes," affirmed the magistrate, "that is how bubonic plague is spread." Defendant was cautioned and discharged.

HOME-SICKNESS.

(Daily Press, 31st October.)

One Dr. BEHEIM is quoted by the *Japan Chronicle* as having written that "no Anglo-Indian—man or woman—considered India to be a permanent home; but all hope to return to Europe some day for good." Our Kobe contemporary thinks that it is very much the same in China and Japan. We fancy Dr. BEHEIM's remark is an exaggeration, and we feel certain it is not true of Hongkong or Shanghai. As for Japan, we used to hear of numerous instances in which the country and people had appealed so strongly to the temporary residents as to evoke expressions of an intention to "settle down" there. The number of "old residents" who have no intention of leaving Japan, although they have the means with which to do so, appears to be considerable. With regard to China, the case of Shanghai affords a notable example contrary to the opinions quoted. The social life there is so happy, the climate so healthy, that a new sort of patriotism seems to be born in the resident there; and the establishment of a claim to the title of a pukka "Shanghaiander" seems to be as much a matter for self-gratulation as the song says "Englishman" gives. In Hongkong, where the climate is supposed to be more trying, there are many who regard it as their permanent home. There is a saying that everybody wants to go Home, and that when their wish is granted they "hear the East a-calling," and wish to be back. Dr. BEHEIM quotes it. "And yet," he says, "with all the outcry about climate and social discomforts,—on the first occasion when fogs, ice and sleet in England are responsible for some bodily indisposition, the Anglo-Indian 'abroad' wishes to be back in his bungalow, surrounded by tropical heat and tropical splendour." "So it is," says our contemporary, "with the Far Eastern. He cherishes a great longing to go home to his native country, not for a mere brief holiday, but to spend his days in the enjoyment of the pleasures that he so vividly remembers in his youth. When the time comes, however, he finds that everything is changed, that fogs are not enjoyable, and sleet and snow more attractive on Christmas cards than in stern reality." He finds also that being an unnoticed unit in a mob is an unwelcome change to the status of a sahib or a taipan. Probably even the original singer of "Home, sweet home" might have changed his tune when he found on returning that the vacancy caused by his first departure had disappeared much as does a wound in the bark of a growing tree. The returning prodigal usually feels "out of it," and has practically to create for himself a new niche in the society to which he formerly belonged. ROBINSON CRUSOE on his island drew up a parallel statement of the advantages and disadvantages of his detention there; and were we to copy his example here, we could draw up a list of compensations for our "exile" that would more than balance the sentimental value of the scenes we are supposed to yearn for. There are worse places to live and die in than Hongkong, even in the country (whichever it be) that we call Home. As a matter of fact, that is what a very considerable proportion of the residents on the China coast are doing; and it is probably incorrect to suppose that a majority of them are dwelling on the prospect of returning to Europe "for good."

MONEY AS CONTRABAND.

(Daily Press, 1st November).

Nothing could show more strongly the ridiculous lengths to which irresponsible arbitration courts will proceed than the recent suggestion which was made that lending money to belligerents ought to be regarded as an infringement of neutrality. If it had been desired to set forth the absurdity of the majority of the rules as to preserving neutrality, probably no better illustration could have been hit upon. No doubt the lending of money to a belligerent is in one sense a breach of neutrality; as to supply the sinews of war clearly tends very greatly to the advantage of the nation to whom they are thus supplied. Lending money may thus be said to be taking a very important part in assisting a nation who contracts a loan in time of war; but in the true, that is, the international sense of being a breach of neutrality, it is manifestly ridiculous to hold that such an act is fairly open to protest. No one would seriously maintain that a nation, which happens not to have sufficient means to carry on hostilities in which she may be engaged, cannot legitimately obtain assistance from any nation, more fortunately situated than herself, who may be able and willing to supply her with such funds as are necessary. To take up such a position would be practically to say that no nation could assist in obtaining a loan for another, unless there were some guarantee that the borrowing nation would keep the peace for at least ten or twenty years. Money lent in advance of a war is likely, for obvious reasons, to be of much more effective value than that lent after hostilities have commenced; as there is nothing against its being invested in warlike material in any part of the world without any international question arising. If it is necessary to swallow this camel, it seems childish to strain at the gnat of lending money at a much less convenient time. The absurdity of such a position is, perhaps, best shown by the fact that by no possible stretch of imagination can it be maintained that a nation cannot lend another money in advance of a war which is contemplated for the purpose of enabling it to carry on that war on its arising. What was there to prevent England or France or any other nation lending Japan money which she might use to complete the navy which she used to such good purpose in the recent war? Absolutely nothing; and as a matter of fact, loan after loan was obtained by Japan and was devoted by her to that purpose. If funds can be lent thus in advance, what substantial reason can there be for their not being advanced while the war is actually going on? Very little thought must show that such a conclusion is quite untenable. Granted that funds may be sent in advance and that a portion of the funds so obtained may be saved for use actually during the war, it is manifest that there can be no real distinction between the residue thus retained and loans before the outbreak of hostilities. The only effect of any such rule as that suggested being adopted would be to equally embarrass all nations who have occasion to make arrangements for their own protection in advance. Practically it would be to agree that no nation, which was unable to raise all its possible requirements in the way of money for warlike expenditure within its own borders, would be able to take any precautions for its protection in case of the outbreak of hostilities. In other words the only nations that would be safe would be those who had been able to fund vast amounts to meet contingencies that have no doubt to be guarded against,

but which might never arise. Such a restriction upon the natural right of a nation as well as an individual to do what it likes with its own could never be maintained, even if by any possibility the Powers could be brought to agree to it. In addition to its inherent unreasonableness, it is a regulation which, of course, could be evaded in half a dozen different ways, and this would be in itself a sufficient reason for its not being entertained. Of course the idea has originated from Japanese loans having been taken up largely in the United Kingdom, but the important point is overlooked that such loans were not taken up by the British Government, but by individuals, and not upon political, but upon purely commercial and financial grounds. If any loan of the kind was unduly aided by the Government of a neutral state, some grounds for objection might well be raised; but when the lending of the money is a matter purely from bankers or private individuals, it is quite impossible, without going counter to the well-accepted principle that war between nations does not constitute war between private individuals belonging to the respective nationalities, to hold that such loans cannot be made. The case would, of course, stand on a very different footing where a neutral Government, as government, guaranteed a loan of a nation at war which, but for such guarantee, could not float it itself. Such a case, however, is very little likely to arise, as it is difficult to conceive that any nation would lend money, in its collective capacity, to a nation which was not trusted by the people of the lending nation individually. In some rare instances, such, for instance, as in the case of the loan which it was stated Germany was willing to offer Morocco, something of this kind might be done to a very limited extent; but it would be obviously unreasonable to accept a general principle, which would affect all international relations, to meet a possible case of so entirely exceptional a character.

REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT IN CHINA.

(Daily Press 2nd November).

No one will accuse the Chinese with being too rapid in their actions towards obtaining some improvement in the administration of the internal affairs of the country. It has for a long time been announced that China was at last really going to do something in this direction which would astonish the world; and many who had long despaired of any good thing coming from Peking had a faint hope that happier days were about to dawn upon the Celestial Empire. At last something definite came out when it was announced that it had been determined that a Proclamation should be issued next China New Year in favour of introducing representative Government into the country in twelve years. The most captious of critics could hardly say that this was doing things in too great a hurry; and the Chinese, if they are at last bent upon some kind of reform, seem determined to keep up their reputation of acting on the golden principle of "fe-tina lente." It is not surprising if some of a more sceptical disposition than the average should have grave fears that this announcement may be merely the Chinese way of again putting off action; but still there are signs that possibly there may be something in it, and that at last the long prophesied Chinese awakening is to take place. The declaration which has been made at least shows that the Chinese have been forced by circumstances to recognise that the question

of internal reform is one which in some way must receive their practical attention; and that it cannot be shelved, as has hitherto been the case at Peking, as one quite beneath the dignity of the Celestial authorities to consider as within the range of practical politics. No doubt the Peking Officials would gladly put aside the matter altogether, and simply dismiss so revolutionary an idea as that of granting representation to the people, as utterly incompatible with the paternal system of Government with which China is blessed. Their idea would be to do something which would keep people quiet for a time, while the Government was actively engaged in doing as little as it could, a plan which at least has the advantage of giving the authorities a chance of getting out of the difficulty if from unexpected circumstances the opportunity of so doing should arise. The distance of time at which something in the way of representative Government is promised does not seem very encouraging; but still there is room to hope that circumstances will be such as to force the Government of China, in this instance, to adhere, at least to some extent, to their promises. Some improvement in the internal administration of the country is essential if China is to preserve her national independence, with a neighbour of such progressive tendencies as Japan close by. This fact cannot have escaped the notice of the officials; and it must be well known to them that the weak spot in their system is their inability to rely upon the masses; and the history of recent events in Japan ought to have made it apparent to them that the best (if, indeed, not the only) way of securing popular support is to give facilities for a reasonable amount of representation.

At first sight it might seem that the instincts of the Chinese were so much opposed to representative institutions that, even if the authorities desired to introduce them, a movement of the kind would be impossible. Such, however, will hardly be considered to be the case by those who have had an opportunity of studying Chinese institutions practically, and of judging of Chinese powers of organisation and administration, not from books, but from the actual facts. In theory, it might be supposed that the autocratic instinct was that which most generally characterises the Chinese. The system of Government is based upon an extension of the idea of paternal authority, and passive obedience would seem to be the special habit that would be evolved from such a system of Government in the course of centuries. The Chinese, however, as existing in the present day, have by no means so blind a reverence for authority of an arbitrary character as might be supposed, while in a variety of directions they undoubtedly show capabilities of self-government, which are not ordinarily credited to them. In their village organisations and in the system of government by "hundreds" in force in their cities they show considerable administrative instincts, while their Guilds and other associations prove that they are able to unite for common objects, and to devise measures for general advantage within stated limits. This, of course, is the very germ of representative government; and if it be true that the Chinese intend to follow up the Japanese idea of improving upon these various existing associations, and working out from them a system of representation which will apply to the larger affairs of state, there is at least good reason to hope for satisfactory results. From what we know of Chinese powers of administration as displayed by them in

many important directions in this Colony—such as some of their Commercial Companies, and to some extent also in the Legislative Council—we have good reason to believe in their power of governing by representation in minor matters. To apply this, without modification, to the larger affairs of state would, no doubt, be very tiresome and might prove dangerous; but a careful study of the system in its most important forms, and the formation of a constitution on the basis of the facts thus in evidence, and a study of the best models in Europe and America, would in all probability lead to satisfactory results. It is this which (no doubt at the suggestion of Japan) the Chinese appear at the present time inclined to essay. Two years certainly appears a far-off date at which to hope for practical results; but still in a matter of this kind it is well not to move too rapidly. If, however, the Chinese are really in earnest, we may hope for substantial results at a much earlier date. There seems no doubt that at the present time the Chinese are taking definite steps to acquire a critical knowledge of foreign institutions, and if they are wise enough to adopt such knowledge to the wants of their country it is not beyond the range of hope that they may succeed in establishing some form of representative government, which would undoubtedly go far to remove many of the difficulties under which the country has so long laboured.

WHERE EAST AND WEST DO MEET.

(Daily Press, 3rd November).

It would have been considered very much out of the usual order of things, some years back, that the political state of Europe should directly affect any question in the Far East; but there can be no doubt that such was the case with regard to the peace between Russia and Japan. It is to this fact that the discontent which manifested itself in the latter country is to be largely attributed. It was felt by the Japanese that there was something behind the peace negotiations themselves which influenced them, quite apart from the actual position of the belligerents, and also quite apart from the direct interests which either Japan or Russia had to safeguard in coming to terms with their respective opponents.

The change which has taken place marks a very important era in affairs in the Far East; and will add no little to the complications which have always surrounded all Eastern questions. Hitherto such questions have been dealt with in accordance only with the interests in the East of the different powers concerned; but even within these limits, sufficient complications have arisen on account of the diversity of those interests combined with the necessity for something like common action on any given occasion. The extent to which this state of affairs has been made use of by the Chinese, in order to obtain their own ends, is notorious. They have been able to pit one nation against another with such success as to keep all at a respectful distance; and this policy they will no doubt try to keep up to the end of time. Of late there have been some signs that such a line of action may not be so easy in the future as it has been in the past, as there is always one nation, namely Japan, which is too close to China and too well acquainted with her ways to be capable of being bluffed in this manner.

It is certainly a somewhat strange that, at the very time when matters seemed to have reached a more hopeful point out here, a new and very important element has been developed in Europe, which fresh aspect of affairs threatens to be as difficult if not more difficult to deal with than that which has hitherto had to be accepted. The Far East is no longer important only in its direct bearings, but may at any time have a wide-spread influence upon political affairs in Europe. Anything in the way of a disturbance in this direction is, in the present day, likely to assume an importance such as may produce marked changes in the balance of power in Europe. In former days a war in the Far East was in reality what Russia, with curious self-deception, has endeavoured to persuade herself the recent war was, namely only a "little war," of merely local importance and, at most, of such small dimensions that it involved no very serious issues. It has, however, been shown that war in these parts may prove so exhaustive and so wide-spread in its effects as actually to endanger the position of a large Euro-Asian Power, which happened to be the losing party; and may thus end in seriously disturbing the ordinary balance of power in Europe. This effect was produced by the unexpected weakening of Russia which was brought about by the war; and it gave a very dangerous opening to Germany, of which at one time there seemed reason to believe she might possibly avail herself. At all events, very strong opinions were prevalent in this direction, and whether they were well-founded or not, there can be no doubt that consideration of this circumstance conducted, in no small degree, to the desire to bring about peace. How far Japan was influenced by representations made to her it is, of course, impossible to say. It may, however, be assumed that her statesmen would be able to appreciate fully the importance as to her own interests of this bearing of the subject; while its being one which would not be understood by the people at large would account for the discontent which was popularly manifested. Certainly the lesson as to the future is one which it will be well not to overlook. The fact has to be faced, in the present day, that any serious difficulty in these parts is likely to affect political relations between European nations; and thus the Far Eastern question is likely to become as serious a matter in its relation to European politics as the near Eastern question has for been so long.

THE ACTUAL STATUS OF COREA.

(Daily Press, 3rd November.)

A FEW days ago we ventured to say in plain language what diplomats have been hinting at and what most people have quite understood, namely, that Corea is no longer an independent nation, and that it was time to recognise this as an accomplished fact. The correctness of that view appears to be amply confirmed by a paragraph in a despatch from the Marquess of Lansdowne to Sir C. HARDINGE, British Ambassador at St. Petersburg, a copy of which reached us from England yesterday. It says:

"Article III., dealing with the question of Corea, is deserving of especial attention. It recognizes in the clearest terms the paramount position which Japan at this moment occupies and must henceforth occupy in Corea, and her right to take any measures which she may find necessary for the protection of her political, military, and economic interests in that

country. It is, however, expressly provided that such measures must not be contrary to the principle of equal opportunities for the commerce and industry of other nations. The new Treaty no doubt differs at this point conspicuously from that of 1902. It has, however, become evident that Corea, owing to its close proximity to the Japanese Empire and its inability to stand alone, must fall under the control and tutelage of Japan.

His Majesty's Government observes with satisfaction that this point was readily conceded by Russia in the Treaty of Peace recently concluded with Japan, and they have every reason to believe that similar views are held by other Powers with regard to the relations which should subsist between Japan and Corea."

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 31st October at the Board Room. Hon. Dr. F. Clark (president) presided, and there were also present: Dr. W. W. Perse, M.O.H., Lt.-Col. Jo-ling, Mr. A. Ramjohn, D., Macfarlane, Mr. F. J. Badely, Mr. A. W. Brewin, Hon. Mr. W. Chatham, Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., Mr. Ian Chu Pak, Mr. Fung Wa Chun and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (secretary).

BILLS OF HEALTH AND PLAGUE.

Mr. POLLOCK pursuant to notice of motion, moved—"That in view of the small number and the intermittent occurrence of cases of plague at the close of the plague season, it is desirable that the present practice as to granting clean bills of health in connection with plague cases should be modified." He said that in support of the change which he submitted should be introduced in the present practice with regard to granting clean bills of health at the close of a plague epidemic, he would refer to the figures for the last three years; 1903-04 from the 1st July to the 31st December, and this year from the 1st July to the 30th September. As most members of the Board were aware, the question of granting clean bills of health in this Colony depended upon the provisions of what was known as the Venice Convention, to which the colony had adhered. Under this convention no area in which the plague had existed was considered as infected until no death or case of plague had occurred for a continuous period of ten days. That was a very onerous condition to apply with reference to the termination of an epidemic of plague, and it seemed to him rather an illogical condition to be imposed in view of the fact, which was well known, that this colony was not considered as infected with plague in an epidemic form. In the Paris Convention, to which this colony did not adhere, but to which the United Kingdom did, an area was not considered to be infected until several cases of plague had occurred. The trend of modern conventions with regard to plague was not to consider an area as infected simply because a few sporadic cases occurred, and he thought it only logical that the colony should not be considered infected because a few cases occurred here and there. According to the Venice Convention, however, the colony was still considered infected, and still had to show foul bills of health; although it was quite obvious from the returns that the plague no longer existed in an epidemic form. On the 28th October, 1903, the colony was finally considered free from plague, and it seemed absurd that with only eight cases in 31 days from August to September, the colony should be considered infected. For 1904 Hongkong was not considered free under the provisions of the Venice Convention until the 24th September. Taking the last two months, from the 25th July to the 24th August, there were 34 cases in 31 days, and from the 25th August to the 24th September, 10 cases. The figures for 1904 were, perhaps, not so striking as they were for the year 1903, as in the latter year the plague began to abate comparatively early, and a very long time before the period of ten days required by the Venice

Convention came into operation. This year the colony was considered free by convention on the 12th September. The figures from the 13th July to the 12th August showed 31 cases, and from the 12th August to the 14th September 14 cases. Although he had admitted that in 1904 the cases, taking them in the aggregate for the periods of months he mentioned, were perhaps not so striking as the falling off in 1903 still for 1904 the figures were very striking, because taking the period after the 6th August—on which day three cases of plague were reported—and continuing down the list to 12th September, but not including that day, for the whole period from the 7th August to the 11th September inclusive there was never more than one case reported a day, and on some days no cases were reported at all. Similarly, taking the figures for this year, from the 1st to 11th August inclusive, twelve days, only three cases of plague occurred; and yet, as he pointed out the colony was considered infected under the provisions of the Venice Convention right up to the 12th September. It seemed an absurdity to consider that a plague epidemic existed in the colony after the 11th August. He had handed to the press the figures from which he quoted, and hoped they would be published [unavoidably held over till our next issue] because he thought them very instructive indeed, and they would bear out his argument that a new method ought to be adopted with regard to the issue of clean bills of health—or in other words the consideration of the colony being infected—than had been adopted hitherto. He thought, in view of the fact that a very large sanitary staff was employed, and therefore that it was only reasonable to suppose that nearly all cases of plague came under the notice of the authorities, the colony had a right to expect that in future a different system should be adopted. They had not power as a Sanitary Board to take any active steps in the matter but he understood the Chamber of Commerce were taking it up, and no doubt the matter would be brought before the Legislative Council. He did not think it altogether useless, however, to have brought it before the notice of the Board, because the publication of the figures would tell their own tale, and would amply justify him in submitting that it was desirable that the present system should be altered. Where alterations were practicable it would, of course, be for the Governor and the Legislative Council to consider. He thought he had said sufficient to show that a case existed for inquiry, and then left it desirable that some alteration should be effected.

Mr. AU CHU PAK seconded the motion.

Dr. PEARS said if we were free from plague for nine days, and a case occurred on the tenth day the colony would have to wait another ten days before a clean bill of health could issue. We might then go on for another nine days, and a case occur on the 10th, when we would be thrown back again; whereas, if we were to go on for ten days without a case, a clean bill of health could issue, and after it had begun, a case or two occurring now and again would not prevent clean bills continuing to be issued.

The PRESIDENT thought he was right in saying that every member of the Board was in sympathy with Mr. Pollock's motion, and he thought something would probably result from any representations which might be made by the Board on the subject. The making of rules and regulations regarding clean bills of health was a matter for the Government's consideration, but any recommendation from the Board on the subject would receive ample consideration. At the present moment the Government were signatories to the Venice Convention which laid down certain definite rules, such as the one they had now to comply with. Since that convention had been drawn up, a further one, the Paris Convention of 1903 had come out. This convention agreed to reducing the period of freedom from plague from ten to five days; that was to say, after five days clean bills of health might issue. In return for the reduction in the period of time, however, the Paris Convention imposed certain conditions, and it was those conditions which required the approval of the Chamber

of Commerce, and of shipping owners, before the convention could be adopted in this colony. He thought this the proper time to bring the matter forward, as they had now five or six months to make suitable arrangements and have it threshed out and ready for adoption.

The motion was carried unanimously.

MODIFICATION OF REQUIREMENTS.

Mr E. M. Hazland, architect, submitted a plan for proposed houses on Inland Lot No. 1704, and asked the Board to recommend H.E. the Governor in Council to allow the open space at the rear to be less than one half of the whole open space required by the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, and the open space at the side to count towards the necessary open space.

The M.O.H. minuted that in view of the very open space in which it was proposed to build these houses, the request was a very reasonable one.

The PRESIDENT stated that a technical objection had been raised, and it appeared that the Governor-in-Council had no power to grant the application as it was at present worded. He suggested that the Board should recommend the Governor-in-Council to permit these two houses to be provided with open space of a certain area, half of which should be in the rear and half on the side of the houses. This would get over the technical difficulty.

The suggestion was agreed to.

KITCHEN AT A THEATRE.

An application was received from Messrs. Palmer and Turner asking permission, under section 45 of the Building Ordinance, to use a basement room of the Ko Shing theatre as a kitchen. The room was only half below the ground level, and was well lighted and free from damp.

The M.O.H. minuted—I do not consider that any portion of the basement below the Ko Shing theatre is fit for use as a kitchen. Cooking has been done in the basement, and a prosecution has already taken place.

The application was refused.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

At a death rate of 1.00 per annum, the mortality statistics of the British, Foreign and Chinese community, excluding the army and navy, for the week ending 30th September, show a percentage of 21.1 as against 18.4 for the corresponding week of last year.

LIMEWASHING.

For the fortnight ending 24th October 4,412 houses were limewashed in the Eastern, and 3,765 in the Central district.

RAT RETCER.

692 rats were caught during the week ending 28th October, of which fourteen were found to be infected.

PLAGUE INCIDENCE AT HONGKONG.

Following were the figures compiled by Mr. H. E. Pollock to illustrate his argument at the Sanitary Board meeting, in favour of issuing clean Bills of Health. Each group of figures explains itself:—

LIST OF PLAGUE CASES.

FROM 1ST JULY TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1903.			
Date.	Cases.	Date.	Cases.
1st July	6	Brought forward	45
2nd "	4	8th Aug.	3
3rd "	3	10th "	3
4th "	4	11th "	3
5th "	1	12th "	1
6th "	11	13th "	1
7th "	3	14th "	2
8th "	3	15th "	2
9th "	3	16th "	1
10th "	5	18th "	1
11th "	3	22nd "	2
12th "	1	27th "	1
13th "	1	28th "	1
14th "	1	3rd Sept.	1
15th "	4	7th "	2
16th "	5	8th "	1
17th "	3	12th "	1
18th "	1	15th "	1
22nd "	7	22nd "	1
23rd "	1	25th "	1
24th "	3	29th "	1
25th "	1	2nd Oct.	1
27th "	2	7th "	2
28th "	2	14th "	1
29th "	2	17th "	1
30th "	2	11th Nov.	1

1st Aug.	2	16th "	1
3rd "	3	18th "	2
4th "	2	5th Dec.	1
5th "	3	7th "	1

Carried forward 95 Total ... 186
FROM 1ST JULY TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1904.

Date.	Cases.	Date.	Cases.
1st July	6	Brought forward	92
2nd "	2	31st July	2
3rd "	3	1st August	1
4th "	4	2nd "	1
5th "	2	3rd "	1
6th "	1	4th "	4
7th "	3	5th "	1
8th "	7	6th "	3
9th "	5	8th "	1
10th "	2	9th "	1
11th "	7	10th "	1
12th "	3	11th "	1
13th "	4	12th "	1
14th "	1	16th "	1
15th "	2	24th "	1
16th "	2	31st "	1
17th "	2	1st September	1
18th "	11	2nd "	1
19th "	6	5th "	1
20th "	1	7th "	1
21st "	1	10th "	1
22nd "	1	12th "	3
23rd "	1	13th "	1
24th "	1	7th November	1
25th "	3	14th "	1
26th "	3	18th "	2
27th "	1	18th "	1
28th "	3	5th December	3
29th "	3	14th "	1
30th "	1	17th "	1

Carried forward 92 Total ... 132
FROM 1ST JULY TO 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1905.

Date.	Cases.	Date.	Cases.
1st July	9	Brought forward	77
2nd "	—	3rd Aug.	—
3rd "	7	4th "	—
4th "	2	5th "	—
5th "	5	6th "	1
6th "	—	7th "	—
7th "	4	8th "	1
8th "	1	9th "	—
9th "	—	10th "	—
10th "	6	11th "	—
11th "	3	1st "	1
12th "	2	13th "	2
13th "	4	14th "	—
14th "	1	15th "	1
15th "	—	16th "	—
16th "	1	17th "	2
17th "	4	18th "	—
18th "	3	19th "	—
19th "	5	20th "	1
20th "	5	21st "	—
21st "	—	22nd "	—
22nd "	1	23rd "	1
23rd "	—	24th "	1
24th "	2	25th "	—
25th "	4	26th "	2
26th "	1	27th "	—
27th "	2	28th "	2
28th "	1	29th "	—
29th "	—	30th "	—
30th "	—	31st "	1
1st Aug.	1	1st Sept.	1
2nd "	—	2nd to 17th Sept.	—
		18th Sept.	1
		19th to 30th Sept.	—

Carried forward 77 Total ... 95

THE CHINESE EMPEROR UNDER RESTRAINT.

The following appeared in the *N.C. Daily News* (Peking, 25th October):—Two days after the bomb outrage, it is reported that the Empress Dowager ordered the Emperor into her presence, and, before the eunuch Li Lien-yin, enquired if His Majesty had any ideas about the outrage. The Emperor simply shrugged by way of answer. Thereupon the Palace Guards entered the room and the Empress Dowager, angrily addressing the Emperor, said he had better confine himself to his room in token of respect and repentance. The Palace Guards then conducted His Majesty to a side room of the Huangchi Palace, where he remains confined with four guards at the door. His Majesty is in a pitiable condition, constantly crying out in anger at his plight. This report was afterwards contradicted. See page 320.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 30th October.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR F. T. PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

CLAIMS AGAINST AN ABSENTEE.

The Sing Tak Bank of No. 175 Queen's Road Central claimed from Chan Tung Shang, gentleman, of Nos. 2 and 4 Seymour Road, the sum of \$20,000 due by the defendant on two promissory notes for \$10,000.

Mr. H. G. Calthrop, instructed by Mr. D. V. Stevenson (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon) appeared for the plaintiffs; the defendant, who was absent from the Colony, being unrepresented.

Mr. Calthrop stated that the plaintiffs were a Chinese Bank carrying on business at No. 175, Queen's Road Central. On August 29th they lent \$20,000 to the defendant, he giving in return two promissory notes each for \$10,000. It was agreed at the time that interest should be paid at the current rate amongst Chinese Banks. For the first month the interest was paid, but they now asked for judgment for the whole amount together with interest from the 28th September.

Mr. Pollock, who appeared in a second action against the defendant, raised the question of priority of service of writ. His client's writ was in the hands of the bailiff prior to that of the plaintiffs in the first action.

A lengthy discussion then ensued regarding the question of priority, re which his Lordship reserved his decision. Mr. Calthrop then called

Mui I Ngan, who said he was the manager, and a partner in the plaintiff bank. On the 28th August the defendant approached witness with reference to the loan of a sum of money. \$20,000 was advanced him at the rate of \$9.80 per \$1,000 and after that the daily interest was to be 35 cents per \$1,000. Witness had been paid the first month's interest, but after that had not received any; neither had he been repaid the principal.

His Lordship gave judgment for the amount, together with interest and costs.

In a second action against the same defendant, the Soy Kut Bank, of No. 169 Queen's Road Central, claimed the sum of \$10,000, for the advance of which amount the defendant gave the plaintiffs two promissory notes dated 7th September, each for \$5,000.

Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. L. d'Almada e Castro (of the office of Messrs. Brutton, Hett and Goldring) appeared for the plaintiffs.

Mr. Pollock said this also was a procedure by way of foreign attachment; the plaintiffs had obtained an order of the Court enabling them to proceed *ex parte* against the defendant.

Kwok Tung, manager of the plaintiff bank, gave evidence in support of the claim.

His Lordship gave judgment for the amount, together with interest and costs, but in this, as in the former case, stayed execution until he had given his decision on the question of priority.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

THE WING FUNG FIRM *EX PARTE* KRUSE AND CO. AND ULLMANN AND CO.

This was an application by the petitioning creditors for a receiving order against the Wing Fung firm.

Mr. J. Hays (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) appeared in support of, while Mr. F. B. L. Bowley (of Messrs. Denny and Bowley) opposed the application on the grounds that there was no act of bankruptcy committed.

Mr. Bowley stated that the object of the opposition was for the debtor to establish his character. He had no intention of running away, and only went to Canton to make a loan. The evidence of the act of bankruptcy was absolutely insufficient, and the present petition against the debtor ought to be dismissed, as he returned to Hongkong with the money to pay his creditors, but found his shop in possession of their watchman.

Mr. Hays contended that if the debtor had been going to Canton to negotiate a loan he would have rather courted questions, and would

have told his foki to acquaint anyone who called at his shop in his absence with the reason of his visit to Canton. Instead of doing this he left a foki at his shop and did not say where he was going to, or when he was coming back. If the debtor was in such a good position as stated, having goods in his shop to the value of \$7,000, he surely could have been able to give some security. When the creditors went to the shop on the day arranged for the payment of the debt they found that the debtor was absent, and that the foki did not know, or refused to tell, when he was expected to return. Seeing the show cases nearly empty, and not so many goods in the shop as usual, an impression would be left on the minds of the creditors that something was in the wind.

His Lordship—It may be perfectly true what Mr. Bowley says with regard to the intention of the bankrupt in going to Canton, but I must ask what was to guide the petitioning creditors as to the action of the debtor? Nothing was said to them about his going to Canton to get money.

Mr. Hays—Nothing of the kind, my Lord, and he disappeared without saying where he was going. The debtor spoke about his credit being ruined, and his business spoiled by the action of his creditors, but his credit could not have been particularly good if with \$5,000 worth of goods, he could not raise \$500. Why did not the friend who had previously offered to lend him money, lend it? Probably he had visited his shop and thought better of it.

Mr. Bowley contended that the court, sitting as a jury, must find whether there was any intent on the part of the debtor not to return from Canton.

His Lordship—The material points, I think, are whether Messrs. Kruse & Co. were justified in doing what they did, and with regard to the intent.

Mr. Bowley—I say, my Lord, it is a question of fact for the court to say whether there was intent or not. The boycott of American goods stopped the debtor's business.

His Lordship—That is rather inconsistent with the idea that the petitioning creditors stopped his business.

At this stage the court adjourned for tiffin, and on resuming his Lordship delivered his judgment. He said the short facts of the case were that the petitioning creditors requested payment of the debt, and threatened legal proceedings if it were not paid on a certain day. On that day the debtor, having failed to meet his creditors, proceeded to Canton to raise the amount. He failed to give Messrs. Kruse & Co. any information as to his visit, and returned two days afterwards to find bankruptcy proceedings started by his creditors. Granted that he did not go to Canton with intent to defeat, but in order to benefit his creditors, this intent was looked in his own bosom, and Messrs. Kruse and Co. knew nothing of it. The question was whether the debtor's conduct amounted to an act of bankruptcy. He must have known that his departure would make Messrs. Kruse and Co. believe that he had followed the custom of so many Chinese traders here, and that in not finding him they would follow the invariable custom of taking immediate legal proceedings instead of resorting to more dilatory measures, owing to the circumstances of the case. A receiving order would, therefore, be made on the creditors' petition, and the debtor's dismissed with costs.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE)

CLAIM FOR DAMAGES.

The case was continued in which Tam Man Sam, of No. 19 Jervois Street, sued Tam Yau and Cheung San Pang, liquidators of the Sai Kai Kung Yick Po Company, Ltd., for \$1,000 being as to \$500 for the return of money deposited by the plaintiff with the defendants on the 2nd June, 1905, in part payment of the purchase money of the business, property and effects of the Sai Kai Kung Yick Po Co., Ltd., and as to the balance of \$500 for damages for breach by the defendants of the said contract.

Mr. C. E. H. Beavis (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) represented the plaintiff, and Mr.

H. W. Looker (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon) appeared for the defendants.

His Lordship stated that he had examined the book containing the minutes of the meeting at which the newspaper was sold. If Mr. Looker put forward sufficient evidence as to the genuineness of the minutes in that book, the case was then simply a question of argument.

Evidence for the defence was then heard, after which his Lordship gave judgment for the defendants with costs.

Thursday, 2nd November.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR F. T. PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

DISPUTE RE A DEPOSIT.

Lo Yee Wo, trader, of No. 46 Queen's Road East, sued Kwong Kam Chuen, of No. 236 Des Vœux Road Central, for \$2,000, being money deposited by the plaintiff with the defendant.

Mr. H. G. Calthrop, instructed by Mr. O. D. Thomson, appeared for the plaintiff; the defendant being unrepresented.

Mr. Calthrop said this matter was brought before the Court on his Lordship's instructions, for the examination of the plaintiff. In his first declaration filed the plaintiff said the amount had been deposited by him with the defendant on the 26th September. On the 29th the defendant made a declaration wherein he said that the sum of \$2,000 was deposited by the plaintiff with the Wing Wo Company to secure the due performance of his contract by Chan Ping Fong to build four houses; if he did not complete, the deposit was to be forfeited. In a second declaration made by the plaintiff, on which he applied for judgment, the second paragraph practically admitted the declaration of the defendant: the third paragraph stated that on or about the 3rd January, 1904, the said Chan Ping Fong stopped work under the contract and requested the plaintiff to obtain another contractor to finish the work. Shortly thereafter the defendant sent for him and, after an interview, the plaintiff informed him that he would get somebody to finish the work. Defendant said he would get a contractor to complete, and return the sum of \$2,000 deposited when it was finished. The defendant then added certain words to the agreement regarding the transfer of the contractor, and the houses had since been completed. Counsel then drew his Lordship's attention to the wording of the defendant's latest declaration which was filed on Monday. The first paragraph stated that the defendant had had been in Canton for the past three weeks, and had been prevented by illness from returning to Hongkong earlier. He denied that he agreed to return to the plaintiff the sum of \$2,000 and that he added certain words to the transfer of the guarantee of the contract to the Tai Chan firm. Through the contractor not completing his contract, the defendant said he had suffered loss to the extent of \$3,000.

On these declarations Mr. Calthrop asked for judgment, but his Lordship adjourned the hearing until after the Admiralty case, which opens on the 2nd instant.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

BEFORE SIR F. T. PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

THE WING ON FIRM *EX PARTE* TANG SHUNG.

Mr. P. W. Goldring (of Messrs. Brutton, Hett and Goldring), who appeared for the petitioning creditor, applied for a receiving order against the debtors' estate. He said the petition issued showed that the Wing On firm were indebted to the petitioning creditor in the sum of \$635, being balance of money deposited with the debtors without security. The act of bankruptcy was that the debtors had declared their inability to meet their liabilities.

Tang Shung, the petitioning creditor, said he was a silk merchant. Recently, when he went to the Wing On Bank to draw an amount of money, he was told by the accountant that the bank had suspended payment.

His Lordship—That is a question of fact. I don't see how the accountant could commit an act of bankruptcy.

Mr. Goldring—The accountant stated that the bank had suspended payment.

His Lordship—What fact is there which evidences the suspension of payment?

Mr. Goldring asked for an adjournment to enable him to produce evidence, which his Lordship granted.

THE WAI YUEN CO. EXPARTE THE DEBTOR.

Mr. G. H. Wakeman, Official Receiver, made an application for the forfeiture of the sum of \$3,000, deposited as security for Sui Wai Chu, one of the partners of the bankrupt firm. As this partner had absconded, Mr. Wakeman asked that the amount be forfeited for the benefit of the creditors.

Mr. C. F. Dixon (of Mr. John Hastings' office) appeared on behalf of the sureties. He was prepared to admit that the partner absconded immediately after the bail had been put up, and was at present in Canton. He was instructed to lay before his Lordship a certificate as to the ill-health of Sui Wai Chu, which was signed by a German doctor in Canton.

His Lordship—When were the meetings of creditors?

Mr. Dixon—They took place some time previous to the signing of the petition.

His Lordship—Had this certificate been produced at the time of the meetings, it would have been a different matter.

Mr. Wakeman—The man was not ill at that time, but his creditors have lost considerably by his absence from the colony.

His Lordship granted the application.

WONG SAU PO AND ANOTHER EXPARTE WONG CHUNG LI.

This was a public examination of the debtor by the Official Receiver.

Mr. H. J. Gedge and Mr. H. G. C. Bailey (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) both appeared for creditors, the former for the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and the latter for the Fuk On Insurance Company.

Wong Sau Po said he was the manager of the Li Fung and Wing Sing Lung firms. The first firm was a bank and the second dealt in gold leaf. The business of the Li Fung started in March or April 1907, and that of the Wing Sing Lung in September 1902. The firms were combined; there was no agreement but there was a partnership book of both businesses, which was made since the starting of the Wing Sing Lung. The capital of the partnership was \$84,000. In the first instance the partners agreed to take shares to the extent of \$5,000, but they only took \$3,000 worth, so that the actual capital received for the two businesses was \$77,000. The accountant drew up the partnership book. Wong Sau Po was one of the promoters of the partnership. The account books were kept in a cockloft at the old shop, but he did not know where they were now. All the books except those in court were lost during the removal to new premises. When the partners subscribed their capital he gave them a receipt, but did not have a receipt himself. The bank was a paying concern, but the gold leaf business was not; it went down during the last few years on account of the Japanese war. They sold the gold leaf to various banks. The account book produced was made up each year to show the assets and liabilities of the partnership. In 1901 the Li Fung made a profit of \$1,717.69. In 1902 the businesses combined showed a profit of \$23,155 for the year. In 1903 they made a loss of \$31,664.96, and in 1904 a further loss of \$21,490.30. After deducting profits the total loss made by the partnership was \$28,192.58. The amount now due to depositors in the bank was \$180,000. The liabilities of the two firms were \$378,998.82 and the assets \$248,115.33. Since last Chinese New Year they had reduced their liabilities from \$378,998.82 to \$114,000. The book containing the balance sheets was four or five years old; it was not lost with the others, because it was kept in an iron safe. He left the Colony in January owing to illness. About that time Li Fung Man was pressing him for the payment of a debt. When he left the Colony he left the accountant in charge of the shop. He had no other property in Hongkong than that contained in his statement of affairs. He had some house property in Des Voeux Road last year which he sold to Wong Fuk Tsun for \$80,000. At this stage the examination was adjourned for a week.

CHOY CHUNG LI EXPARTE LO TOI CHAN.

Mr. G. H. Wakeman, Official Receiver, publicly examined the debtor.

Mr. C. F. Dixon (of Mr. Hastings' office, and Mr. E. A. Bonner (of Messrs. Dennys and Bowley) appeared for creditors.

Choy Chung Li said his debts to unsecured creditors, as shown in his statement of affairs, amounted to \$61,711, while his assets stood at \$37,000. He had no business now, but about two years ago was assistant compradore to Messrs. Meyerink and Co. All his debts were for money advanced to him on no security except promissory notes. One amount of \$10,000 borrowed, he agreed to repay out of his father's estate. He never paid interest on the amounts he borrowed, and first began to borrow in 1902. He did not keep any books.

His Lordship—Was the money borrowed for the purpose of this compradore business?

Debtor—Yes.

Mr. Wakeman—This \$61,000 odd was borrowed in 1904. He says he has not been doing business for two years.

Debtor, continuing, said that when he was in the employ of Messrs. Meyerink and Co. he borrowed money to pay back debts due to that firm.

Mr. Wakeman—How is it you are responsible for these debts?—One of the conditions of the agreement when I entered the firm was that I was responsible for all bad debts.

What was the nature of these transactions you were responsible for?—Piece goods and sugar sold to different firms which failed, and I had to pay.

Is it not a fact that these were gambling transactions?—No.

What consideration did you get for going security for the compradore?—I was to get half the compradore's commission.

Have you got the agreement you made with this compradore?—Yes. It is in Mr. Almada's office.

Who is Mr. Lau Ming Shek?—He was a broker in the compradore's department of Messrs. Meyerink & Co.

Does he owe you any money?—No.

In your list of debts due you have got him down as owing \$1,500?—He gave me a promissory note for that amount when I paid his debts.

Has he paid you any part of the \$1,500?—Yes. I have received \$300 on account.

Your statement of affairs says the whole amount, with the exception of \$200, has been repaid—That is not so.

Was not this a gambling transaction?—No.

What amount of money have you spent during the last three years?—Between \$170,000 and \$180,000.

What has become of all this money?—I paid \$6,000 to Messrs. Meyerink and Co. and \$30,000 to my clansman by way of compensation. We owned certain houses, and they had to be divided. I selected the best of them, gave my clansman the rest and paid the difference in the value.

Was that clansman your brother?—Yes. My elder brother.

Did you have a deed of partition?—Yes.

And paid you brother \$30,000?—Yes, because I got the better share.

And how do you account for the rest of the money?—I paid off my own debts with it.

How did you manage to borrow all this money without security?—Because my friends trusted me.

Then you have been practically living on borrowed money for the last year or two?—Yes.

What were your expenses?—\$300 a month family expenses in Hongkong besides house rents, and \$200 a month for other things. I have two wives living with my mother in Canton, and one here.

In your statement of affairs you say your expenditure for the last three years has been at the rate of \$13,380 a year.—That is so.

Is that correct?—Yes.

Well where does the balance of your debts come in?—I don't know.

Isn't it a fact that you have been leading a most extravagant life for several years?—No.

Did you not receive considerable sums of money from your mother in Canton?—No.

Debtor was next examined by Mr. Dixon.

What was the value of your father's property in China at the time of his death?—I don't know.

You are to share that property with your six brothers, are you not?—No.

Is not your mother at the present time allowing you \$400 a month?—No.

And has she not promised you that if you will keep this property in China from your creditors, when these proceedings are over she will give you \$80,000?—I have not heard from my mother for a long time.

His Lordship—Answer the question.

Debtor—No.

Mr. Wakeman—Did you advance any money to your father in his lifetime?—\$10,000.

Did you get a promissory note for it?—Yes.

Where is it?—With the executrix of the estate.

And the money has not been repaid to you?—No.

Mr. Dixon—I have an application to make under Section 120 of the Bankruptcy Ordinance before this examination closes, with reference to having the bankrupt re-arrested in order that he may give further security for his appearance at the next public examination. He failed to appear at the first public examination; a warrant issued, and he was arrested. He was afterwards released on giving security in the sum of \$5,000. I would now ask that this security be considerably increased, as the debtor is the son of one of the wealthiest Chinese in Hongkong, and I think, if he were sent to prison, his creditors would be paid in full.

His Lordship—I can only commit him if there is probable reason for believing that he committed an offence. He did not fraudulently remove his furniture from his house in Wyndham Street.

Mr. Dixon—But he removed it to prevent his creditors getting it.

His Lordship—Last time I made an order under this section there was no prosecution, as the Crown declined to prosecute; therefore I am in a peculiar difficulty. I am not going to make an order for his imprisonment merely as a means of squeezing money out of him, because the Bankruptcy Ordinance does not allow me to do that. I can make an order if there is probable reason to believe that an offence has been committed, and it seems to me that there was a probable removal of his furniture to Elgin Street. The whole question might be settled, and he might be released. Now, what do you propose to do? Will you undertake to prosecute? You see the position?

Mr. Dixon—I should like to, my Lord. I think it will be very unfortunate for the creditors if he is not required to give further security.

His Lordship—That is another matter. There is the imprisonment and arrest. Is he under security now?

Mr. Dixon—Only \$5,000, my Lord.

His Lordship—What is the security for?

Mr. Dixon—For him to appear at the public examination.

Mr. Wakeman—He came down from Canton and your Lordship made an order for \$5,000 security.

His Lordship—What case can you advance for increasing the security?

Mr. Dixon—If we have him here and do not close the public examination, it is possible that we will secure some of his property in China. With a security of \$5,000 he might abscond again.

His Lordship—He did not abscond. He has appeared as you see. I don't think he has done anything that will warrant my increasing the security. I don't think you can say anything more than you have, and I don't think I can increase the security. The question is whether I make an order for his arrest on a probable offence.

Mr. Bonner—I should like to ask the debtor a few questions, my Lord, before the examination closes.

Permission being granted, Mr. Bonner proceeded.

When the mortgage to Tam Kiu was completed, is it not a fact that you then said you had mortgaged your property in Canton?—No.

Have you given any mortgage over your property in Canton?—I have not.

Is it not a fact that a Mr. Leung Hing Wai was present when your mother offered to pay you \$400 a month to give up your share?—No.

If he goes in the box and swears it, will you deny it?—Certainly.

What are you living on at the present time?—I can raise enough money to pay my expenses. Where are you living now?—With my friend at 80 Wellington Street.

Do you not live with your concubine in Peel Street?—When she comes down from Canton.

Who pays the rent of the house?—My concubine raises money by pawning her things.

Have you borrowed any money since bankruptcy proceedings started?—No.

Just pawned things?—Yes.

Is it not a fact that your eldest brother has petitioned the Namhoi magistrate to divide your father's property in China amongst all your brothers?—When I was in Canton he had not, but I don't know what has happened since my absence.

His Lordship—It is not his property yet.

Mr. Bonner—But under Chinese law it is well known that all sons are entitled to a share in their father's estate.

His Lordship—I think that on such evidence as has been adduced, there is a probable reason for believing that the debtor has committed an offence, under section 82 (e), with regard to the fraudulent removal of any part of his property, and I order a warrant to issue. The solicitors concerned, with the Official Receiver will lay before the Crown officer, within ten days such information as they now possess, and will intimate what further evidence they think they can produce. I want to ensure that the Crown will know, in considering the cases, what materials they will have for prosecution. The ten days is allowed to lay before the Crown at once only what materials they have in their present possession, and then what materials they can collect. The parties interested must then consider as promptly as possible whether they will undertake a private prosecution, so that there won't be that difficulty which occurred before. Then I want the creditors to have a further short period to decide whether they will take proceedings themselves in the event of the Crown not prosecuting. A warrant will issue on these grounds for the debtor's arrest, and the case stands adjourned *sine die*.

POLICE COURT.

Wednesday, 1st November.

BEFORE MR. F. A. HAZELAND (FIRST POLICE MAGISTRATE).

THE DEFECTIVE MORTAR CASE.

His Worship gave his decision in the case in which Lam Cheuk San, contractor, of 91 Wellington Street, was charged with failing to comply with the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, which required him to make use of proper materials in the construction of building works at No. 16 Des Voeux Road. Mr. Perkins, of the Building Department, conducted the prosecution, and Mr. P. W. Goldring the defence.

His Worship said—The defendant is charged before me for that he on the 5th day of September, 1905, did neglect to comply with the requirements of the Public Health and Building Ordinance requiring him to make use of proper materials in the construction of building works at No. 16, Des Voeux Road Central. Section 100 of the Ordinance is as follows:—"Every wall constructed of brick, stone or other hard and incombustible substance shall be solid across its entire thickness, and shall be properly bonded and substantially put together with cement-mortar or good lime-mortar composed of good cement or lime and clean sharp sand with red or yellow earth or other suitable material to the satisfaction of the Building Authority." The following facts were proved to my satisfaction:—That on the 5th September, 1905 extensive building alterations were going on at No. 16, Des Voeux Road Central and that the defendant was the contractor making the alterations. A building inspector of the Public Work Department took a sample of the mortar which was being used. This sample was taken from the same heap of mortar which was being hoisted up and used for brick work on a wall of the said building. The said sample of mortar was then made into two briquettes, tested, and found not to be a good lime mortar. I am

satisfied on the evidence that mortar exactly similar to the mortar which was made into these two briquettes was being used in the brick work of this house. I am moreover of opinion that the making of two briquettes only in the present case was a fair test of the quality of the mortar as a whole. I therefore convict the defendant and order him to pay a fine of \$250 in default of which he will be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for six months.

Mr. Goldring Would your Worship fix a time when the fine should be paid.

His Worship—Oh, it must be paid at once, otherwise he will have to go to goal.

GAMBLING OVER A CRICKET FIGHT.

Judgment was also delivered in the case in which three natives were charged with keeping a gambling house and 60 others charged with gambling on the results of a cricket fight.

Mr. F. B. L. Bowlby, Crown solicitor, prosecuted, Mr. P. W. Goldring appeared for the second defendant, and Hon. Dr. Ho Kai for the remainder.

His Worship reviewed the evidence for the prosecution which he said had been proved to his satisfaction. He had no hesitation in convicting the first three defendants of keeping a common gambling house, while the rest of the defendants were found therein when the police raided the house. Under the Ordinance they were presumed, until the contrary was proved, to have been playing therein. He therefore convicted the rest of the defendants of playing in a common gambling house. The first three defendants would be fined \$75 dollars each or six weeks' imprisonment with hard labour, and the others \$5 each or 14 days' imprisonment with hard labour.

WITH THE VOLUNTEERS.

A GRIFFIN'S EXPERIENCES.

A sham fight conducted by Volunteers is not always the tame and colourless affair it is generally supposed to be. To the ordinary observer such an event might not appear very thrilling, and perhaps hardly interesting but it is surprising the excitement and adventure it has for those engaged in it; not that there was anything very special in the field manoeuvres of Saturday, 21st October, but it was my first experience even of mimic warfare, and as such impressed itself in all its details on my mind.

Among the company of volunteers who gathered at the head quarters to receive so many rounds of blank ammunition there was an unusually free exchange of badinage, and the spirits of the men rose even higher when sailing in the launch across to Comopolitan Dock. One gay and debonaire youth, addicted to the weed, was so lost in thought as he contemplated the doings of that afternoon that he actually came on parade with the pipe in his mouth. He was soon made aware of his indiscretion. After being drawn up in marching order, we proceeded through narrow streets, along a somewhat tortuous course past a native market, and halted on the outskirts of Yau-mat, where we were critically inspected by the Chinese children; but the women, with native modesty, glanced at us and passed on with averted heads, causing us to reflect on what a curious mixture it is that is called femininity! At home such a sight as we presented would have delighted the eyes and hearts of the girls, who would have gathered round like bees round sugar. That the uniform should not be that same magnet here, or rather on the other side, is disappointing.

Having been rejoined by the other half of the company, we resumed the march. This gave us opportunities of seeing a little of the rural life of the Chinese, the industrious native tilling the soil with the assistance of his family; the curious farms standing in all their primitive and malodorous simplicity; and the numerous graves of horse-shoe shape, with their various oblations. But the interesting views were soon shut out when we found ourselves on a road whose sides rose straight to a height of about thirty feet, and after halting here for some time we were joined by the mounted troops. Then the serious business of the afternoon began. We proceeded some distance up the hill, left the road, and plunged into a thicket. Running and tripping and tumbling

and swearing we found ourselves on comparatively level ground and were ordered to take cover. We squatted behind trees and bushes, but as we had not been accustomed to knee drill we found our positions rather awkward, and one was inclined to stand up. No sooner, however, had one showed his head than an invisible companion would tell him in a stage whisper to get out of sight. The funny man of our party was detected standing up regardless of the vicinity of the foe and was ordered to take cover. "So I am," he said, "don't you see I am hiding behind this Christmas tree." Some Chinese, curious to know the meaning of the unusual bustle and activity in their quiet neighbourhood, appeared on the scene. Instantly a dozen rifles were levelled at them and they scattered. Then we thought of what might have been. Had we offered them a bribe we might have ascertained the position of the enemy and stolen a march upon them. However, our reflections were cut short by the word to advance, passed in a whisper from one to another. We had to crawl under bushes that we could not get over or round, and when a branch hit one sharply on the eye there were unutterable things thought. We had to take leaps which at other times we would have hesitated to take, but we had been roused to a pitch at which we would dare anything, and so we made our way out of the wood, ran along the bed of a stream, and commenced to climb. We gained the first ridge in a breathless condition, and here we adjusted the putties that had slipped down, and adjusted the belts that were getting uncomfortable. Having recovered our breaths we descended the valley, slipping on rocks, stepping on to insecure footholds and rolling down with a clatter that must have put any enemy on the *qui vive*. This went on for about an hour and a half, creeping to the top of a ridge, and then advancing to another; while the other sections covered our advance. Then we got the word to fire. No enemy was visible but we blazed away at where we thought we detected something moving on the top of the hill, about half a mile off, and trusted that our aim was accurate. Not long afterwards there was the order to "cease fire" and, with the knowledge that we had routed the invaders, we prepared to descend the hill. This was almost as difficult as climbing, the footing being very treacherous. The peal of laughter, which rang out on one man collapsing and sliding some distance on his back until he used his rifle as a brake, had hardly subsided when it was followed by another. All at once a wild yell shook the air. There was a pause, and a deep silence. "Hornets," said someone and we all edged backwards. One unfortunate youth had disturbed a nest and the insects were angrily attacking him. Several came our way, but as we remained tranquil they passed us over as friends, or at least not enemies. In the struggle to extricate himself the poor wight who discovered the nest dropped his helmet and beat a retreat to the higher ground. Now here was a problem. He must get his helmet but who was to risk a second incursion to the alarmed hornet city. The adventure did not appeal to anyone, and it looked as if the helmet and the man would have to be left, because we could not wait longer for him and he would not budge without his headgear. By-and-by a Chinaman came on the scene, and offered five cents, induced him to undertake what the others would not have done for a much greater sum. He recovered the helmet and we all resumed our descent to the shore, where we once more halted and the provident were able to drink something out of their water bottles. A short march brought us to the jetty at Lai-chikok, and we were soon in camp again. At the canteen we once more encountered our friends the enemies, and though we tried to persuade them that they ought to consider themselves dead and their detachment annihilated, they revealed a perversity which was only equalled by their impudence, for they alleged that they had wiped us out long before we got near them. Finding it useless to argue with such obstinate people, we desisted, and enjoyed the luxuries of a wash and a good dinner, at which the hair-breadth escapes of friend and foe were related with peculiarunction. The extent of some appetites may be gauged from the fact that one man told a boy to bring fish and meat until he told him

to stop, and another instructed the smiling Celestial to bring everything in duplicate, while the libations which followed seemed deeper than usual.

After such an afternoon of violent exercise one would have naturally inferred that most of the volunteers would have been too tired to prolong the fun that evening. But such was not the case. Up till "lights out" the rollicking chorus and the boisterous song were heard all over the island. Then a few were foolish enough to retire. The merry blades who felt their way along the lines in the hope of finding their respective tents did not soothe the slumbers of the others, and remonstrances were uttered, only to be met with the peaceful answer "all right old chap, want to go home." At length I dropped off to sleep, but awoke with a start when I found an apparition in white standing in the door of the tent and looking ghostly in the pale moonlight. "What's up?" I demanded. "Can you find a bed for me here," was the reply. "Why?" was the natural query. "Oh, some bounders have brought our tent down, and the other chaps are rather confused and don't realise what has happened." Fortunately for him there was an empty bed there that night. When he had settled down I learned that one of his tent companions, coming up with another comrade in a very jolly state, had begun manœuvring with the ropes and pegs of certain tents on the way. Not being able to distinguish his own tent, he played the same game there, but the fun was greater to his mind, because an irate man in pyjamas rushed out and demanded to know what they meant. Not stopping for an explanation, he tightened the ropes again; but while he was at one side the other two had loosened the ropes a second time. They kept the game going until the man in pyjamas realised it was hopeless to compete against the two if they were bent on mischief, and so desisted. By this time the canvas was hanging limply to the pole, which was canvased very considerably, and its fall was imminent. Before that occurred the other man discovered his mistake, but he was too confused to remedy it. He dropped on his bed, which was outside the canvas, and after returning "Maskee" to all solicitations for assistance, dropped off to sleep, murmuring "Mine's a mint."

In my previous contribution I expressed disappointment that the uniform had not the sentimental value it possesses at home in attracting feminine eyes, but I discovered a practical value one morning. Happening to miss the 8.30 launch I availed myself of the offer of a friendly lift to Kowloon and crossed in the ferry. When I put my money down I found that I was only charged ten cents instead of the usual fifteen. Needless to say I made no protest but marvelled greatly. Had the apparently impossible happened—had the Chinaman actually made a mistake in calculating money that was not in his own interest. I could not understand it until it occurred to me to examine my ticket. There I learned that the fare for soldiers, sailors and policemen in uniform was ten cents. Of course I felt a wee bit proud of myself. That I should be actually taken for a soldier in less than three weeks from joining the service was more than I ever expected, and I felt so generous that I thought of returning and "tipping" that boy. But the ferry boat moved and I was prevented from displaying my generosity.

Going "on guard" is not relished by the ordinary volunteer. It cuts him off from the social pleasures of the evening and imposes upon him duties which are rather irksome, yet it has its compensations. With the corporal and the two men not on "sentry go" gathered round the table in good form there are usually some very entertaining yarns told and the merry laugh which comes occasionally from the guard tent indicates that those on duty are not repining in silence over their comparative isolation. When the bugle sounds just before six o'clock and the men for guard fall out they are usually regarded by their comrades as almost martyrs. While there are few who willingly seek to go on guard, there are some who pride themselves on avoiding that duty. Needless to say, this is not playing the game fairly, as it means that the conscientious have to undertake the wearisome task more often than they ought.

Leaving the guns, those of us for guard hasten to our tents, clean our rifles, buckle on our waist belts and side arms, and fall in on the level ground below. Here we and our arms are inspected by the orderly officer, and we are marched off to the main guard tent. We are informed that each man has two hours on and four off. I get the last turn—from 10 to 12 and from 4 to 6. Keeping our rifles, with fixed bayonets, ready at hand, we sit down at the table outside the tent. Not unnaturally the experiences of others on guard become the subject of the conversation, and I was advised not to emulate the exploits of a certain individual who challenged all the water carrying coolies, and as they did not respond, arrested them and confined them in the guard tent. When his successor came on duty he apparently wished to have the distinction of a capture also, and on a coolie approaching he chased him until he captured him. What the orderly officer said next morning when presented with the frightened Chinaman need not be printed. Suffice it to say that he did not commend their excess of zeal.

One advantage of being on guard is that you are well attended to in the matter of chow. There is no waiting and shoving to attract the boy. Everything is brought with dispatch and you really enjoy your meal in comfort. After dinner some of "the boys" come along to commiserate with you on your banishment from the canteen and most probably sit down to have a share in the quieter amusements of the guard tent. A cup of coffee is brought along for each and then I relieve the sentry. Of course I must not divulge the nature of the charge that was committed to me on that occasion. But it was important, overwhelmingly important, and the burden of it was so great that I hardly knew what my feelings were. Happily my beat was along the shore and I was able to look out to sea. As the searchlight was at work, the scene was invested with an additional though temporary charm, and one did not feel the time so tedious when there was so much to delight the eye. The arrival of an occasional launch gave one the opportunity of challenging those who landed, but fortunately for themselves they were all friends. Had they been otherwise one shudders to think of what duty would have compelled one to do. By 11 o'clock all the noise in the camp had ceased, and the stillness of the night was only broken by the lapping of the waves on the shore. A peculiar sound behind made me stop. I strained my ears, but could not discover its nature. A heavy footfall induced me to go forward and under the shadow of the tower I saw a dim form. Then I made out two eyes, and closer inspection revealed them to belong to a harmless pony. At midnight I summoned the corporal and was relieved. Turning in, I tried to sleep, but the bed seemed harder than usual and the belt and bayonet always seemed to be getting in the way. My fitful slumbers were disturbed at 4 o'clock, when I had again to shoulder my rifle and patrol the beat. It was an eerie sensation going out into the chilly morning in a dazed and sleepless condition, but footsteps woke me up and I was on the *qui vive* to challenge the Indian soldiers going on and off guard. At five o'clock I woke the corporal, who roused the bugler, and he in turn annoyed the whole camp by sounding the Reveille a quarter of an hour later. Then the duties of the guard practically ceased. The coffee arrived a few minutes after the bugle call and, I need not tell you that it was very welcome. Putting the tent in order, we waited the appearance of the orderly officer who dismissed us at 6 o'clock and our vigil was concluded. A swim refreshed us somewhat, but not till we had made up these arrears of sleep did we feel ourselves again.

I cannot conclude this record of my experiences without a reference to the inspection of last week end. On Saturday afternoon we proceeded to the north of the island, and on the way had to go through a stretch of sand where walking was very difficult. Arrived at the place where the guns were drawn up, we waited in some anxiety for the inspecting officer, but when he did arrive he put us all at our ease, and then we went on with the work of the day, trying to hit targets on the hills on the opposite side and afterward scattering a few targets in the water. To test us still further, we were ordered to pick up

spades and dig a trench. Some entered into the work with great enthusiasm and some didn't. When a fellow hasn't handled a spade seriously since his boyhood days on the sands of some watering place at home, he is apt to find the exercise somewhat trying. That several were awkward at the work will be readily understood, and it frequently happened that the sand lifted on the spade did not reach the intended destination. One man left the trench and seemed to engage in some form of gymnastics, bending his head to the ground. When questioned on the subject, he remarked—"Why some blessed idiot has put a shovelful down my neck." Whether there was exactly a shovelful deposited there I would not like to say but he certainly had a fair quantity of sand which was not likely to be very soothing. One fellow was conspicuous because he had not taken off his jacket and excused himself by saying that his shirt was all holes and buttons. Ultimately our work was concluded and we set out for camp. But our return was not so easy as we had anticipated. We had to take back the guns, and as these had to be dragged over the stretch of sand on which we found it so difficult to walk before, you can imagine something of the task that was set us. It was back-aching and leg-aching work and we reached camp panting and tired. Fortunately, after the amusement of the evening there was on this occasion nothing to disturb our rest and we rose fresh in the morning for the inspection by the Commandant and the General Officer Commanding. The general was very complimentary to us and that was reckoned by most as ample compensation for the exertions of the day before. Subsequently we listened to the ministrations of the pastor—at least some did—and then we realised that the official programme of the camp was concluded. The afternoon was devoted to entertaining friends and swagging round in dress suits and field service caps, and swinging sticks, while those with cameras were very busy for an hour or two. The sports which followed were very exciting and after the last race we took our departure for home. We did not, like the Arabs, "fold our tents and silently steal away." We were more prosaic. We returned our bedding and moved off amidst much chin-wagging and pledging "our next merry meeting."

PROGRESS OF MERCHANT SHIPPING IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE PRINCIPAL FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

A Parliamentary Blue Book was published in London on the day of the departure of the German Mail, giving various tables relating to the shipping of the world; the figures for the United Kingdom being for 1904, and those for the Colonies and Foreign Countries for 1903. It is to be noted that the Hongkong figures are exclusive of Chinese junks engaged in the foreign trade, and yet without them Hongkong has attained the summit of its ambition, it being now the first shipping port in the world. The following are the totals of entrances and clearances for some of the principal ports:—

Hongkong	19,204,889
London	18,631,159
Antwerp	18,139,184
New York	17,900,168
Hamburg	16,466,639
Liverpool	14,716,790
Rotterdam	13,597,819
Cardiff	13,119,472
Singapore	12,004,919
Marseilles	11,336,077
Monte Video	11,143,852
Genoa	10,098,753
Colombo	9,439,632
Lisbon	9,417,316
Tyne ports	8,882,156
Gibraltar	7,769,069
Malta	7,185,268
Capetown	7,165,185
Kobe	6,670,977
Melbourne	6,487,290
Shanghai	6,192,044
Sydney	5,934,411
Calcutta	3,032,326
Bombay	3,000,199

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

27th October.

THE BOYCOTT.

Sometime ago the boycott committee here received a cable from the San Francisco Chinese enquiring whether the two men arrested, Ma-Poon and Ha, had been released. They also remitted a sum of \$5,000 in aid of the boycott funds. The local committee have now cabled the following reply: "We acknowledge receipt of your remittance of \$5,000 for the boycott fund. The two men arrested, Ma-Poon and Ha are still in custody in spite of the guarantee we have signed to bail them out. They are treated very well, however, and are patiently awaiting their release. We are pushing the boycott with all our might."

VICEROY'S BEREAVEMENT.

It is reported that Viceroy Shum has received news to the effect that his elder brother, Taotai Shun-Chun-Wing, who was living quietly in Shan-si province, was suddenly taken ill on the 21st and died on the 25th. The news has affected the Viceroy very much as it is said that His Excellency loved his elder brother very dearly. He has gone into mourning.

RICH MEN'S PANIC

Yip-Po-Chun has sent a petition to Viceroy Shum in which he gives a detailed list of all the wealthy people in the province, and suggesting that His Excellency should call on them to subscribe sums in proportion to their wealth to enable the Viceroy to carry out his schemes. Viceroy Shum has replied saying that while funds were urgently needed by the Government he could not follow Yip-Po-Chun's absurd and, perhaps, interested suggestion. There is nevertheless a general panic amongst the higher classes here and hundreds are leaving for other climes with their families and whatever valuables they have that are easily removable. If this wholesale exodus continues, the wealthy element will soon disappear from this province. The rich have been greatly scared by Viceroy Shum's severity in reference to Chau-Tung-Sang's case and are afraid of being punished for some misdeed committed, may-be, by one of their ancestors.

SING-SONG HOUSES.

It is reported that the sing-song houses, which were closed up some time ago by the Ex-Governor of Canton, are to be re-opened on the 1st of the 10th Moon, the prohibition having been removed by His Excellency the Viceroy. The closing of these establishments has caused considerable losses to the shops in their neighbourhood and depressed trade generally in the western suburbs where these pleasure houses were situated.

VICEROY SHUM ILL.

It is reported that Viceroy Shum has had a relapse and that he is seriously ill again. His Excellency is attended by a Shanghai native doctor who receives 100 taels a day for his services.

THE LING-CHOW CASE: THE TRUE VERSION.

I sent you a few days ago a translation of an article which appeared in one of the local papers with reference to the alleged misconduct of a French Missionary. I am now informed that the details published were entirely false, and that the following is the true version of the affair:—A Christian widow living in the Ling-chow village was recently murdered by the non-Christian brothers of her deceased husband. The relatives of the widow immediately reported the matter to the sub-prefect and asked for the murderers' arrest and punishment.

The sub-prefect did nothing, however, and no investigation was made. The Missionary of the district sent a letter to the above official requesting him to lose no time in thoroughly investigating the affair as Christians and non-Christians were equally entitled to claim his protection and that all creeds were to be granted justice on an equal footing. At this juncture the Rev. Father having been obliged to pass close by the village of Ling-chow in the course of a journey, necessitated by his duties as administrator of the district, was suddenly confronted by a howling mob which rushed out of the village and started to attack his two native attendants

who were carrying his luggage. The Rev. Father who was on horseback, rode at once to the nearest yamen and immediately acquainted the petty military official in charge of the occurrence. This official placed twenty braves at the disposal of the Rev. Father and the party marched towards the village where the attendants had been left. On nearing the village the braves marched ahead towards the house where the two attendants had been driven. The soldiers, who were only armed with swords and cutlasses, were, however, immediately ejected from the village by the mob who had numerous rifles in their hands and who started to fire on the running braves scattered in the neighbouring fields. The Rev. Father immediately rode up and placed himself between the mob and the soldiers in the hope of preventing unnecessary bloodshed. The villagers continued to fire, however, and the Rev. Father barely escaped with his life, having had his hat pierced by a bullet. A detailed report was subsequently sent by the petty military official to the sub-prefect.

This official, realising the seriousness of the situation, sought to extricate himself and sent a report to the Viceroy demanding the missionary's removal from the district. The French Bishop has laid the case before his consal.

28th October.

BOYCOTT NOT ABATING.

The boycott committee here beg to acknowledge receipt of the following contributions towards the Boycott Union's funds:—25 inst. from Australia £111.0.0; 26 inst. from South Africa \$1,323.05; and 26 inst. from Victoria \$111.00.

These items show that the local committee is not remaining idle. The boycott movement is far from abating. Numerous circulars, such as the one I translated the other day, are being distributed almost daily amongst the members of the union. In view of the Viceroy's attitude, however, the propagandists work cautiously though actively. From reliable information I am inclined to believe that the movement is gaining a firmer hold every day.

KING'S BIRTHDAY.

The following circular has been sent to all the British honours and residents here:—"It has been decided to celebrate the king's birthday by sports in the afternoon and a dance in the evening of Nov. 9, to be held on the tennis courts. All those who are willing to subscribe are requested to write the amount of the subscription below." A very fair sum has already been subscribed.

A BIG SCHEME'S FAILURE.

On the 23rd of August I reported that a merchant named Lo-Wang-Fat had sent a petition to Viceroy Shum offering taels 20,000 for the purchase of 28 mow of the land in the Tung-Ho-Hun, this sum to include the rights and privileges for the erection and exploitation of a Theatre, Sing-song houses, Fantan shops, and other places of amusement.

It now appears that the above petition was sent in the joint names of Lo and another man, Cheong-Fook-Cheung. The purchase of the land was settled at the above price and the privileges granted. Lo and Cheong jointly paid into the Sin-Hau-Kuk a sum of \$10,000 as bargain money about a month ago. The balance was to be paid as follows: 90,000 taels at the expiration of one month from the date on which the bargain money was paid, and the remaining taels 100,000 on the completion of the reclamation of the foreshore (an area of about 8 mow). The first instalment of 90,000 taels fell due several days ago but was not paid. It is now reported that Lo has filed a petition wherein he explains that the partnership between himself and Cheong having been dissolved on account of the latter's connection with Chau-Tung-Sang, who stood to back his share in the undertaking, and owing to whose departure his partner had no funds to fulfill his part of the contract. Lo asked the Sin-Hau-Kuk to allow him an extension of one month's time to look for the necessary capital from other quarters. The Sin-Hau-Kuk have, however, replied that it had nothing to do with the dissolution of partnership between Cheong and the petitioner. They could only go by the agreement signed by petitioner, and gave him notice that unless the balance due was paid in within the next three days, the bargain money would be forfeited and the ground and privileges would be offered to the public by tender.

ROBBERIES ON THE SHAMEEN.

Within the last few days several robberies have been committed on the Shameen. One gentleman living on the French concession is minus a house-boy and about \$300; another victim, an English gentleman on the British concession, has lost various household articles valued at over 100 dollars. In both cases house-boys are the offenders. Both are still at large and there is not much likelihood of the stolen property ever being recovered. In the Englishman's case, however, it has been discovered that part of the stolen articles were pawned. What is surprising is the way which these robberies are committed. One would think that with only two exits from our Island concession (the two bridges which span the canal and half encircle the Shameen) such articles as table cloth, towels, and European clothing in large bundles would attract the eye of the policeman and call for suspicion. These thieves apparently do not use the bridges to carry their booty over to Chinatown to be disposed of. They undoubtedly use the canal which, as I pointed out in a previous letter, is not adequately patrolled at night—on the British concession at any rate. Sampans move along the canal all night, and with only the two policemen to guard a stretch of over 1,000 yards of bunding indifferently lighted and bordered with huge trees and other obstructions such as matchsheds, building materials and what-not, thieves could remove boat loads of stolen property without being detected. This portion of the canal requires at least three more policemen at night. Things are pretty bad when even the local constable cannot keep these scoundrels away from his own premises; I have been told that he also has been victimized lately. The pawnbrokers are reluctant to show their stock to searchers after stolen goods. There is no law here as in Hongkong forbidding pawnbrokers to take in any articles specially or exclusively used by Europeans, and the sooner the foreign Consuls demand this restriction to be imposed by the Chinese authorities on the local pawnbrokers, under penalty of having their licences cancelled, the better for the European community. Thieves will be less apt to carry away such articles as ladies' blouses and gentlemen's dress suits when they discover that the pawnshops are closed to them. Hongkong will also benefit by this measure as most of the articles stolen there are disposed of here. Where do all the Meerschaum pipes, amber cigarette holders and opera glasses that adorn the show cases of many a curio-shop come from? There is a fair held here in the early hours of the morning every day outside the temple of Longevity. It is called by the Chinese themselves "the thieves' fair," as most of the goods offered for sale are supposed to come from the neighbouring towns and villages. European articles are conspicuously numerous. Where do they come from? From Hongkong undoubtedly.

30th October.

IMPORTATION OF FIREARMS.

Viceroy Shum has memorialized the Board of Revenue at Peking, stating that from the 9th moon of the 26th year of Kwang-Hsu, no arms were imported to the Kwangtung Province from foreign countries. This was before the prohibition for the importation of arms was enforced. The prohibition ceased in the 7th moon of the 29th year. The Kwang-si rebellion breaking out just then, the Province had to purchase 1,200,000 taels worth of firearms from foreign countries.

CHINESE MILITARY TITLES.

The local authorities have received a dispatch from the Board of Revenue at Peking stating that people who have bought military titles and degrees prior to the edict issued some time ago prohibiting the sale of such titles and degrees are now requested to register within the next five months their purchase under the penalty of being deprived of the use of such title or degree. It is reported that there is a great rush and that titles and degrees yet obtainable are at high premium.

ACCUSATIONS.

One of the Canton gentry memorialized Viceroy Shum that Ma-Yuen-Yum, a military officer, and his brother, had made use of their stations for carrying on a fantan-gambling

house and that they have also constructed a building on the premises for the purpose of gambling with friends, and that sing-song-girls frequent the place. The Viceroy has ordered an investigation to be made into the charges.

ANXIOUS TO RETIRE.

Viceroy Shum has sent a long telegram to the Wai-Wu-Pu saying that, thanks to the good wishes of the Throne, his life was spared during his recent severe illness; but that he is ordered by both Chinese and foreign doctors to retire to some place where he can enjoy absolute quiet and fresh air. Otherwise, medicine will do him no good. He says he cannot rest at the yamen: being impulsive and energetic, he cannot refrain from doing work as it presents itself. He named several officials who could be trusted to conduct affairs in his absence; and begged the Wai-Wu-Pu to ask the Throne to let him retire for two or three months.

EMPERESS DOWAGER'S BIRTHDAY.

The 10th of the 10th moon being the anniversary of the birthday of Her Majesty the Empress Dowager of China, Viceroy Shum has instructed all the officials to wear Court uniform from the 7th to the 13th, both days inclusive. All the officials will go to worship the Imperial tablets at the Shan Koong temple.

31st October.

A NEW OPIUM PREPARATION.

The following is a translation of an article published in the *Sze-Mun-Po*:—"Opium was formerly imported from foreign countries only. It is a drug which possesses the evil power of destroying the people's energy. Its importation and consumption drains the money out of our country, and the injuries done by this drug are indescribable. Since the commencement of the boycott on American goods our people have started to manufacture all sorts of foreign articles to prevent our wealth from flowing into foreign hands. We now hear that the proprietor of the Chu-cheong lane tobacco factory, named Chu-Tai-Yu, has discovered a substitute for Indian opium. The new drug is prepared by mixing Yunnan opium with molasses and it is said that it has the aroma and the taste of the Indian prepared opium." The writer of the above seems to have overlooked the fact that the duties levied by the I.M. Customs on foreign opium constitute a large portion of China's revenue. Were the importation to cease, China would have to impose new taxes on the people to counterbalance the loss from that source of revenue. I do not think Chu-Tai-Yu's patent stuff is likely to affect the importation of the real stuff just yet.

FUNERAL CEREMONY.

It is reported that a grand ceremony was held in the Viceroy's yamen on the 29th inst. owing to the death of His Excellency's elder brother, Shum-Chun-Wing, who died in Shan-si province on the 25th inst. All the provincial officials attended the ceremony.

THE KWANG THAT LAY THE GOLDEN EGGS.

It is reported that local merchants have received letters from their branch offices at the Capital saying that the Board of Revenue in Peking, investigating the accounts of the Kwangtung and Kwang-si provinces, noticed an item of seven million taels under the heading, "Monies spent for the purchase of firearms and ammunition incidental to the quelling of the rebellion in Kwang-si," and that three million taels out of that sum had been borrowed from foreigners. The Board has decided to instruct Viceroy Shum to repay this enormous foreign loan by raising the funds necessary in the two Kwang. The northern officials apparently think that the resources of the two southern provinces are inexhaustible.

DREDGING THE RIVER.

Owing to the numerous boats, junks and sampans that anchor at To-Tau, near the I. M. Customs offices, and on account of the shallowness of that part of the harbour which is gradually silting up, the Commissioner of Customs has given instructions to have that portion of the river dredged for the general convenience of boats that use that section of this congested harbour.

PIRATE CHIEF CAPTURED.

Chan-Leong, a notorious pirate chief, who with a thousand well-armed followers has been levying blackmail on many villages up-country for many years and has amassed vast sums of

money, has been trapped at last through the exertions of Ng-Chung-Yu, a magistrate. A member of the gentry named Tai-Wai reported the whole affair to Viceroy Shum. It is said that Magistrate Ng will have a substantial promotion. Chan-Leong is now on his way to Canton escorted by a strong force of braves. He will be judged here as soon as he arrives.

A FREAK.

A woman in Po-Kung (Honam) gave birth the other day to a girl with two heads. The parents were very much afraid and immediately engaged several Chinese priests to take the baby away to the fields outside the city and leave her there.

THE HOPPO'S YAMEN.

The Hoppo's yamen in the walled city has been vacant since the abolition of the post some time ago. Admiral Li-Tsun has now applied to have the use of the premises. His present yamen near the Ching Hoi Gate will be turned over to the Powai-Ying, who will use the premises as their offices.

TELEGRAPH EXTENSION.

It is reported that Viceroy Shum intends to connect Kongmoon with Canton by telegraph. The traffic is growing rapidly at the former port and its proximity to the important city of Sun-wai renders the establishment of a telegraph station there desirable. Most of the important centres of the province are still without telegraph stations.

1st November.

PASSPORTS.

It is reported that the Wai-wu-pu has cabled to the Viceroys of all the provinces stating that in future foreigners applying for passports to travel in the interior will receive them under the same conditions as hitherto, but the two characters "Tui-cha" (調查), meaning privilege to call upon Officials or Chamber of Commerce to enquire or investigate, shall be omitted in the passports granted in future. If a foreigner desires to travel in the interior with the object of enquiring into any special matter, the Wai-wu-pu will consider the application and grant if necessary a special passport.

BOYCOTT STILL ACTIVE.

Since the death of the boycott hero, Fung Ha-wai, who died in Shanghai, the gentry, merchants and scholars have been holding funeral ceremonies in Canton and in the neighbouring commercial centres. The boycott union in Fatsan has now announced to the public that a grand ceremony in memory of Fung Ha-wai will be held in the Shi-chai college on the 20th of November. Large sums of money have already been subscribed and the memorial service will be on a grand scale. It has been decided to create a public garden in Fatsan, in the centre of which will be placed a bronze statue representing the deceased hero. The ground will be tastefully laid out with trees and flowering plants. The above is another proof that the boycott feeling is far from decreasing.

The leaders are constantly fanning the public enthusiasm in the matter.

RICHES AT CANTON.

It is reported that several enterprising Chinese merchants are about to ask Viceroy Shum for the privilege of running riches on the new bund which is now being reclaimed. It will, no doubt, prove to be a convenient mode of locomotion for people who have business on the river side of the City. The only riches to be seen here at present are half-a-dozen condemned vehicles from Hongkong which are plying outside the East Gate.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, 29th October.

WORSHIPPING THE "BOYCOTT HERO."

To-day is a red letter day for the inhabitants of Lappa and the neighbouring villages. It is the day set apart for the worshipping of the name and portrait of the famous man called Fung Ha Wai (馮夏威). Fung Ha Wai was a man, young in years but great in noble deeds. He was supposed to have sacrificed his life for his country and his people in the present boycott, hence the Chinese are now worshipping him as

the "Boycott Hero." The match where his tablet and portrait were placed was crowded with enthusiastic worshippers not only from Lappa, Macao and the surrounding villages, but even from Hongkong and Canton. The *Wingchai* and other boats brought over a large number of Chinese from your colony. Special ferry launches were running the whole day between Macao and Lappa, the fare being two cents. Speeches were delivered and, I need hardly say, the boycott was the sole topic. Lappa was selected as the most suitable place for holding the meeting, as the Chinese wanted a place near to a foreign city. Some Europeans went there to see the fun. Even up to the time of writing (8.30 p.m.) there are still people going over, and the kow-towing is proceeding.

FIRES AGAIN.

Since my last, I have two more cases of fire to report. The first occurred in a tea house and was put out before any serious damage was done, and the second happened in a fire-cracker factory.

NEW MARKET STALLS.

On Wednesday at the ordinary meeting of the Leal Senado, the stalls in the new market at S. Domingos were put up to auction. The vegetable and fruit stalls fetched very good prices, but there was no bid for the fish and meat stalls.

THE TRANSPORT "AFRICA."

This ship is now expected to arrive here on the 10th proximo.

DEATH OF THE COLONIAL SURGEON.

Macao, 1st November.

The Colonial Surgeon of this city, Dr. José Gomes da Silva, died this afternoon at 5 o'clock at his residence, after a long and painful illness. Dr. Gomes da Silva had been a resident of Macao for more than 25 years, and was a member of the Government Council. During the epidemic of plague, he rendered very good services to his Government and earned for himself a reputation and much popularity. In recognition of his services then, Dr. Gomes da Silva was decorated by his Government with the *Comenda de Torre e Espada*, and was afterwards further made the recipient of the *Comenda de S. Tiago*. The deceased left eleven children to mourn his death. Dr. Azevedo and Lieut. Santos are his sons-in-law. By right of seniority Dr. Espectação d'Almeida is going to be our new Colonial Surgeon, and the inhabitants of Macao are to be congratulated in having such an able and energetic man as Dr. Espectação for the post.

THE NORTH CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The second ordinary general meeting of shareholders in this company was held at Shanghai on October 25th. There were present Mr. A. McLeod (chairman), and shareholders representing 1,004 shares.

The Chairman said—The report and accounts having been in your hands for the past few days, I think we may follow the usual custom and take them as read. I have the pleasure to move that the report and accounts as now presented be accepted and passed. It is satisfactory to us to be able to recommend a distribution of dividends on the scale estimated as probable, in an ordinary good year, when the reconstruction scheme was placed before you, and in addition to make a substantial increase to the reserve fund. You will doubtless like to know how the company has fared regarding war risks, as the newspapers have contained frequent allusions to the losses of insurance companies in the business, and I am happy to inform you that while we have kept clear of the speculative risks, we have made a substantial profit on the regular business we take for our constituents. Such profit, however, must be regarded as exceptional, profit which we cannot expect to make in ordinary years. The formation of a sterling reserve fund was decided on in order to obviate the large items of exchange which have appeared in our accounts from time to time, and you will observe that the capital and reserve fund, amounting to £50,000, are fully represented by sterling securities. We further recommend the formation of an "exchange and investment

"fluctuation" account in order that items under these heads, which have from time to time appeared in our working accounts, may more properly be debited or credited to the proposed account. You will, of course, recognise that with the increasing business we are now doing, and hope to do in the future, it is necessary to strengthen our resources by as liberal additions to reserves as circumstances will allow. In conclusion, I would remind shareholders that the success of the company depends to a great extent on their support, resulting in mutual benefit to the company and themselves.

There being no questions, the following resolutions were put to the meeting and carried unanimously:—

Proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr. W. Meyerink: That the report and accounts as now presented be accepted and passed.

Proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mr. W. H. Poate: That a final dividend of 7½ per cent on the paid-up capital and a bonus of 15 per cent upon contributory premiums be paid; that Tls. 10,000 be placed to the credit of a silver reserve fund; that Tls. 50,000 be placed to the credit of an "exchange and investment fluctuation Account"; and that the balance be transferred to the underwriting reserve account, closing the account for 1904.

Proposed by Mr. J. M. Young and seconded by Mr. C. Selby Moore: That Messrs. A. McLeod, W. H. Poate, J. N. Jameson, W. D. Little, and W. Meyerink be re-elected to the board of directors, and that the remuneration of the directors be Tls. 6,000 per annum.

Proposed by Mr. J. M. Young and seconded by Mr. H. A. J. Macray: That Messrs. Wingrove and Hayter be re-elected auditors of the company.

Proposed by Mr. J. N. Jameson and seconded by Mr. J. Samson: That Mr. Harry de Gray be elected to fill the seat on the board of directors vacated by Mr. G. A. Matthews, who is leaving for home.

The Chairman said there was still another resolution which he had to propose: That the Directors be authorised to pay to the staff a bonus for the past year not to exceed 10 per cent on their salaries.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. H. J. Such and carried unanimously.

CHINESE SCHOOL REFORMS.

A committee of Chinese gentlemen contributed the following report to the *Daily News* at Shanghai:—

It has been known that in China until very recently scarcely any care was paid with regard to the constitution of schools. It has been firmly maintained that every student should always be ready to repeat his lessons, but it is not indispensable for him to understand the meaning at the same time.

The Four Books and the Five Classics constituted all that the students should study. Sciences are never taught in the schools. Such schools, however, can hardly produce any men of ability.

Though several schools have been opened, both by the Government and by the people in different provinces in which new methods of teaching are used, yet it is hopeless to have education extended to all, as the expenses for opening such new schools are very great, and the numbers of these schools are too limited.

A society known as the "Society for Reforming Private Elementary Schools" has been established in Pootung by Mr. Shen Keh-yie, an enthusiastic scholar of Shanghai.

He began his work in July last year, and in the following winter he opened a branch society in Soochow, where there was also a society for the teachers of the private elementary schools to study. Over thirty of such teachers became members of this society with their students numbering over three hundred. The students are examined once a month by the society, and those who reach a certain standard in the examinations get prizes, and their teachers get rewards from the society once in half a year.

The expenses of the society were subscribed by the gentry and scholars of the place.

After this has been done for half a year, the result is clearly shown that the students have improved a good deal in their studying.

When the gentry of Shanghai heard this they at once requested Mr. Shen to come to Shanghai, consulting him about the organisation of a Central Society in Shanghai. They also asked him to go personally over the three prefectures of Soochow, Sungkiang, and Taichang for the purpose of reforming the private elementary schools.

Mr. Shen said that he was glad to do so.

He began his travel in June last, and finished his trip at the end of September, after having travelled over the various districts of the three prefectures. During the trip 21 branch societies have been established, and those who became members of the society number over 3,600, viz.: about 20 teachers of various private schools, and 400 gentlemen who have signed their names, and over 3,000 students from private schools of different parts.

Mr. Shen is a hardship-enduring and experienced man; he does not mind much the hot weather, but works very hard for the benefit of young men. He also gave books and maps etc., to those on whom he called. He was heartily welcomed wherever he went, and meetings were held and addresses given by him.

It is said that the high officials of Nanking, Chekiang, and Fukien have ordered their subordinate officers to follow this example.

The measure is easy and useful, for a sum of \$100.00 is quite sufficient to open a branch society and reform five or six private schools in a year.

Should this be put to test everywhere, great changes would take place in the educational world of China, and the country will become wealthy and strong in a few years.

WEDDING.

An interesting marriage was solemnized at St. John's Cathedral on the 27th October, the contracting parties being Mr. Walter Herbert Howard (of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire) second son of Mr. Walter Howard, of Ilford, Essex, and Miss Isabel Meta Dewar, only daughter of Dr. Dewar of Jamaica.

Palms and ferns adorned the Cathedral for the occasion. The Rev. F. T. Johnson conducted the service.

The bride, who was a nurse in the Government Civil Hospital, was given away by Dr. John Bell. She wore a charming gown of French crepe, trimmed with Mechlin lace, a veil of fine tulle displaying the usual orange blossoms, and carried in her hand a bouquet of white chrysanthemums. Adorned in white silk Empire gowns, on which were embroidered forget-me-nots, the little bridesmaids, the Misses Dorothy Fullerton and Helen Bolles, looked very pretty. As the newly wedded couple marched down the aisle after the ceremony, Mr. G. Grimbly, the organist, played Mendelssohn's "Wedding March." Amongst those present to witness the ceremony were the Hon. Dr. F. Clark, Hon. Mr. Basil H. Taylor, Dr. Hunter, Mr. H. P. Looker, a number of the bride's friends from the Government Civil Hospital, and many of the bridegroom's colleagues from Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's offices.

From the Cathedral the wedding party returned to the Sisters' Quarters at the Government Civil Hospital, where a reception was held, at which Dr. Bell proposed the health of the bride and bridegroom. Mr. Howard responded, and after receiving the congratulations of their friends, the happy couple left on their honeymoon.

CHINESE EMPEROR UNRESTRAINED.

It appears that the sensational story of the confinement of the Chinese Emperor was not true after all. The *N.-C. Daily News* has a telegram from Peking, on 26th October, saying:—The story of the imprisonment of the Emperor is proved to be baseless. After the bomb outrage there was some rumour of having an heir apparent appointed, and Princes Pu Lun and Tsai Chên were mentioned as candidates. This gave rise to the story of the Emperor's imprisonment.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

OPENING CRUISE AND LADIES' RACE.

On the 28th October was almost an ideal day from a yachting point of view, not too much sea, and just enough wind to make the boats move at their best. Consequently there was a goodly muster to welcome the new Commodore, Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., as the leader of the opening cruise. A short spin was taken towards Stonecutters' and then a return was made to the Police Pier, Kowloon, to prepare for the more serious portion of the afternoon's amusement. At 3.10 the gun went for the ladies to prepare themselves for a handicap run to Kowloon Rock and back. A very good cruise with an easterly wind, as it gave a fair share of beating, reaching and turning. At 3.15 the starting gun went and Mr. Watkins put *Kathleen* across the line on the port tack, quickly followed by Mrs. Johnstone in the *Dione* on the starboard. *Colleen* steered by Mrs. Kent was soon on the heels of both. *Kathleen* continued to keep her lead up to Kowloon point when she went too far amidstream and had to give way to *Dione*, who rounded the Rock in fine style two minutes ahead of *Kathleen*, who was followed a few seconds later by *Colleen*. *Dione* setting her balloon jib went rapidly away, and further increased her lead in the run home but was unlucky enough to run into a small patch of cam, letting up the crowd behind—*Kathleen*, *Colleen*, *Elspeth* and *Vernon*, being all in a bunch together. An exciting finish ended in *Kathleen* just beating *Elspeth* and *Colleen*, and saving her time on *Dione*, thus winning the handsome prize presented by Mr. Pollock; *Colleen* getting the second presented by the Yacht Committee. The competitors then adjourned to the *Chenitisi*, kindly lent by Sir Paul Chater for the occasion, when the usual time honoured excuses for not having won were put forward—the favourite one being that his starting watch was entirely wrong. A strictly non-alcoholic entertainment was then concluded by Lady Piggott kindly presenting the prizes.

	Actual Times.			Corrected.		
	H.	M.	S.	H.	M.	S.
<i>Kathleen</i> (Mrs. C.)						
M. F. Watkins)	4	14	30	4	10	30 (1)
<i>Colleen</i> (Mrs. Kent)	4	14	33	4	10	33 (2)
<i>Dione</i> (Mrs. L. A. M. Johnstone)	4	11	45	4	11	45 (3)
<i>Min</i> (Miss Berkeley)	4	16	25	4	12	25 (4)
<i>Bonito</i> (Miss M. Berkeley)	4	17	53	4	13	35 (5)
<i>Elspeth</i>	4	14	32	4	14	32 (6)
<i>Vernon</i> (Mrs. H. P. Tooker)	4	14	34	4	14	34 (7)
<i>Doreen</i> (Mrs. Hett)	4	22	32	4	16	32 (8)

1ST CLUB RACE.

CHAMPIONSHIP.

On Sunday none of the boats in this class made a very good start. *Elspeth* shortly afterwards had the bad luck to break her tiller. The heavy sea and stiff breezes caused some minor accidents on board the *Dione* which may account for the comparatively slow time in which she completed the course as compared with *Colleen* in the one design class, who only took 20 seconds longer. The race itself resolved itself into a very keen struggle between *Dione* and *Vernon*, only a few yards separating them the whole way. The times of finishing were:—

	H.	M.	S.
<i>Dione</i>	1	8	20
<i>Vernon</i>	1	9	0

ONE DESIGN.

Kathleen and *Min* had somewhat the best of the start, but the former was handicapped by only having one Chinese boy as crew, and would have gone better if she had followed *Min* and *Bonito's* example in having a reef down. The order round Kowloon rocks was *Min*, *Colleen*, *Bonito* and *Kathleen*, about 20 seconds separating each boat. This order was kept till rounding the Channel Rocks, when *Colleen* closed up to *Min*; the former having no reef, scoring in the run. *Min*, *Colleen*, and *Bonito* jibed round Meyer's East Buoy, *Kathleen* not being in it with her one boy, staying round and losing a lot of ground. This order was maintained on the second round, but *Colleen's* full sail on the run from

Channel Rocks via Meyer's Buoy began to tell its tale, eventually winning a fine race by a few seconds, *Bon* to a good third, having been well up the whole time:—

Times of finish:—

	H.	M.	S.
<i>Colleen</i>	1	18	40
<i>Min</i>	1	19	30
<i>Bonito</i>	1	20	25
<i>Kathleen</i>	1	25	35

HANDICAP CLASS.

In this race *Chanticleer* in his new owner's hands did a fine performance, doing his course in just eight minutes, more than the champion ship boat and beating *Alannah* without his handicap. Capt. Warren is also to be congratulated on his good showing with *Gloria*, but he only had a Chinese boy as crew.

	Times of finish			Corrected		
	H.	M.	S.	H.	M.	S.
<i>Chanticleer</i> ...	1	36	20	1	27	55 (1)
<i>Alannah</i> ...	1	39	07	1	29	07 (4)
<i>Gloria</i> ...	1	45	00	1	34	00 (2)
<i>Doreen</i> ...	1	46	20	1	36	20 (3)

REVIEWS.

Coins of Japan, by Dr. NEIL GORDON MUNRO. Yokohama: published privately. \$12.50.

The work of a busy surgeon in Yokohama, the result of spare time researches in connection with a clever man's hobby, the only object claimed for this book is that of affording relaxation for other brainworkers who may take it up. This is false modesty. There is a whole library of works on the subject—in Japanese, but this we believe, is the first and only work in English, placing within the reach of the unlearned in sinology the mass of interesting information it contains. It is erudite, and yet has a certain strain of pawky humour which prevents dullness, even for the reader not particularly enamoured of numismatics.

Dr. Munro, evidently an ardent collector and diligent reader, has not disdained to supplement his own knowledge with that of the Japanese authorities, living and dead, and to these he tenders full acknowledgment. There is an interesting introduction which may appear in the light of padding to those acquainted with anthropology and the history of barter, etc.; but it adds to the completeness of the book, and is a far from tedious resumé of the philosophy of the subject. This refers not to the introduction so called, but to the first chapter, entitled, "prehistoric and protohistoric." Following a quotation of Tylor's well-known and interesting disquisition on the ox as a unit of value, Dr. Munro seriously makes the somewhat silly remark that "it is possible that the word 'oof,' vulgarly applied to money, might be traced to 'hoof,' which is used to designate the foot of certain animals, but was formerly applied to the animals themselves, especially when counting them for sale or exchange." It adds to the coincidentalness, so to speak, of this punning discovery of the author's, when he remarks, "the common Japanese word for money is 'oashi,' honourable foot." But there is an example of this sort of coincidence in his own book, page 48, where we read: "Toil (*I ku*)

with the sword (*to*) was, in ancient times, the most laudable occupation, and the combination with its implied deeds of 'derring do,' was a significant way of writing 'merit.' 'Ku' and 'to' combined therefore mean merit." Why not as justly suggest the possibility of tracing a connection with the word 'kudos'? We seem to remember that the slang word, oof, had a music-hall origin, and that even so it was only a contraction of an argotic word "uffish," the source of which we have failed to remember. But for that vague recollection, we might have joined the learned doctor in his search for possible derivations, and have suggested the French word *ouf* as an indication that eggs were once used as a currency. But while there are points here and there for the critic to carp at, the book is without serious blemish as a serious contribution to the foreign literature of Japan. It will rank as a work of reference; and in this connection it is a pity that the proofs should have been read so badly. The letterpress seems with irritating literals.

The chapter on "the antique coins" is very interesting, and that on medieval coins is

historically enlightening, as are the subsequent pages. China contributed both coins and coiners. The comments on the various inscriptions never become tedious, which almost implies a compliment to a writer on such a subject. There is an appendix dealing with Japanese archaic writing, and an excellent index. Perhaps the most remarkable feature of the book is the illustrations, which reach the acme of excellence so far as printers' colouring pigments permit. It is these which are responsible for the high price of the work.

The Far East, by ARCHIBALD LITTLE. Oxford: Clarendon Press. 7s. 6d.

"The Far East" in one volume of three hundred pages smacks of Colloquial Cantonese in *Oue Les-on*; but big as the subject is, no one can read this book attentively without knowing more of the Far East than he knew before, and knowing as much as "one small head" can be reasonably expected to carry. The author certainly has "the power, acquired by a life-long residence in the East, of imparting a local atmosphere" to his descriptions, and in the last forty-five years he has not travelled over the length and breadth of China without acquiring information. The famous rolling stone presents his rich, mossy accretions in this volume, which will be heartily welcomed into the bibliography Oriental. It is, by the way, written for the "regions of the World" series; and is a fully charged epitome of Far Eastern information.

The author has, in the volume itself, made his acknowledgments to all the authorities consulted: he has further to express his obligation to Dr. Morrison, the indefatigable correspondent of the *Times* for allowing him free access, during his recent stay in Peking, to his valuable and truly unique collection of books on China; to Major Ryder, R.E., for kindly revising the chapter on Tibet; and to his old friend, Mr. Thos. W. Kingmill, of Shanghai, for revising the ethnographic and antiquarian data, upon which subjects he is, in China, the chief living authority. The foregoing quotation is from the author's preface.

The author begins by defining "the whole of Eastern Asia outside of British India and Siberia" as his theme, excluding, however, the Dutch East Indies and the Malay archipelago, in which latter he includes the Philippines. He dwells on the vastness of the area treated, and remarks that while Asia supplies lavishly all the needs of man, "it fails in its production of men." In a footnote he adds: "The epoch-making war between Russia and Japan, which has broken out since this book was written, renders this statement true of the Asiatic continent only." Whereat there will surely be cavillers. China, he says, is the most valuable, the most important, as well as the most interesting portion of the Far East. His remark that the dependencies of China proper—Manchuria, Mongolia, Turkestan and Tibet—"bear much the same relation as do our own colonies and dependencies to their mother country" may evoke a grimace from some of us, especially as the affinity is said to be marked "in the one bottom fact that neither derives any direct pecuniary benefit from the relation; the obligation, if any, being on the side of the dependency fostered and protected at the expense of the parent country." With Corea and Tibet particularly in mind—to say nothing of Manchuria—this does not strike us as a grand compliment to the British Government. After a notably expert general outline of the physical geography of China, we have detailed descriptions district by district, the division being into river basins, a very suitable one for China, with *entrées*, as it were, of history, ethnography, politics, and general information. There is an interesting reference to the mysteriously-originaing, "long persistent, hot, dry, land winds" from the west that devastate the Peking district from March to June, parching the land and making the city almost uninhabitable at that period with its famous dust storm (p. 39). The pronouncement of Sui-tung appears to have been at one time an island (p. 45). Perhaps the most interesting part relates to the Yangtze sphere, about which Mr. Little has written exhaustively before, and with regard to which he is probably the greatest living authority. For two thirds of its enormous length, the valley is nowhere wider than the river bed; that is, it is a

continuous ravine. The remaining third flows through an alluvial plain. The sediment it carries out to sea "is sufficient to create annually a fresh island in the Pacific one mile square and fifteen fathoms deep." This prompts a very interesting prophecy: "In the very near future the innumerable rocky islands which fringe the coast, the 'Saddles', the 'Raggeds' and the Chusan archipelago generally, and which now stand out of the shallow waters of the estuary, will look down upon embanked paddy fields, with the river flowing between, precisely as the hills inland from Shanghai now stand out from the fields which have been raised by the same process within the limits of the historical period." Certainly the appearance of the hills thus mentioned suggests that at one time they were islets in a huge lake or inland sea; and the author believes that in a comparatively recent geological time the river did run through a series of lakes. He elaborates this theory convincingly (p. 60-61). In the discourse on the southern basin we note the remark: "Continuing up the Pearl river we reach the frontier town of Po-shi, by which, as we showed in our account of Yunnan, we attain the easiest ascent to the Yunnan plateau from the outside world, and by which the railway about to be built from Hongkong to Yunnan will doubtless, some day, be prolonged into Yunnan." May we interpolate at this point a fervent amen? Canton (p. 137) "appears to have been in touch with the Roman Empire, while Arab, Dutch, and Portuguese traders early brought it within reach of western commerce." A footnote on the Hakka (p. 137) is also interesting, but space available for quotations is now running short. As might be expected knowing of the colonization of Mr. Kingmill, the geology of Hongkong receives full attention. (P. 141 et seq.) No investigation is known of in connection with the sedimentary deposit of the Pearl River, but the persistent silting up of Macao harbour shows it to be enormous. Macao as a port is doomed: it "now rests in the glories of its historic past and of its salubrious climate, which contrasts so favourably with the muggy atmosphere of the mountain-locked harbour of Hongkong. Hence it is hardly probable now that the reclamation works, proposed by Portuguese engineers and estimated to cost £500,000, will ever be taken in hand by the Portuguese Government." Hongkong, we read, is "a credit to British rule and an example to surrounding countries."

After referring to the sheltered position of Victoria in winter, and the successful afforestation of the island, the author says of Hongkong: "Its old evil reputation for malaria has disappeared, and, but for the hesitation of the Government in enforcing complete sanitary regulations upon the reluctant Chinese population, it would be one of the healthiest commercial cities in the world, as it undoubtedly is one of the most prosperous and most beautiful."

The remaining half of the book deals with Manchuria (informatively), Mongolia, Turkestan (interestingly), Tibet (authoritatively), Indo-China, Corea, Siam and Japan. It is on the whole a "geography book" that will greatly assist teachers, make their lessons more attractive, and it will help also those who desire to come to a better understanding of the political and social questions of the Far East. There are eight coloured maps and many illustrations.

The Hankow Race Club, now registered at Hongkong, held its first statutory meeting on Oct. 9. It was decided to empower the directors to raise debentures to the amount of \$50,000 bearing interest at the rate of 7 per cent per annum, payable half-yearly on the 30th of June and 31st of December, secured by the land and buildings comprising the property of the club, the debentures to be redeemable at par in not less than five years from date of issue, and thereafter at the discretion of the directors; the debenture certificates to be \$100 each. It was further agreed that applications for from one to five debentures should have precedence so as to give every member a chance of owning one, while trustees wishing to keep all or part of their money already advanced to the club will have priority.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Son's Circular, dated Shanghai, 21st October, 1905, states:—The Home Markets are quiet. Gold Kiling is quoted in London at 12.3. Raw Silk.—There is still no business to report in Tsatlees and the market generally is very flat. Yellow Silk.—A few bales of Mienchow have changed hands at Tls. 405-397½. Steam Filatures.—Nothing doing. Hand Filatures.—Nothing doing. Holders are willing to make some concession, but they are asking prices a long way above home ideas. Tussah Filatures.—A few small lots have changed hands. Waste Silk.—The market has been quiet and sales have not been important, comprising—200 piculs Boiled Waste 1 & 2 at Tls. 24, 300 piculs Boiled Waste whole bales at Tls. 23, 200 piculs Show-shing Pd. Cocoons 76-77 per cent. at Tls. 88½ whole bales, 200 piculs Woozie Pd. Cocoons 68-69 per cent. at Tls. 70. Dealers are asking Tls. 82 for Carles No. 1, but there are no buyers at this price.

RICE.

Messrs. Wm. G. Hale & Co.'s Circular, dated Saigon 20th October, 1905, states:—Owing to arrivals of Cochinchina paddy being very small our market is steady, notwithstanding the entire absence of business, which is due to exchange having risen considerably.—

We quote for November delivery.

	per picul
No. 2 White sifted (trié) steam milled (round)	•
No. 2 White unsifted (ordinaire) steam milled (round)	\$3.65
5 % Cargo steam milled (round)	\$3.25
10 % Cargo steam milled (round)	\$3.15
20 % Cargo steam milled (round)	\$3.05

* Prices according to terms and conditions.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 2nd November, 1905.—We beg to continue our advices of the 19th ultimo, since when the movements in our various Opium markets have been as follows:—

	Malacca.	Patna.	Benares.	Persian.
Stocks as per circular of 19th October, 1905	1,554	3,067	1,398	1,369
Oct. 19th Imports per Arcadia	380	—	—	34
" 24th " " G. Apcar	—	675	310	—
" 30th " " C. Apcar	—	305	—	—
Less Exports to Shanghai	1,934	4,107	1,708	1,403
Less Exports to East and West Coast Ports including Local Consumption for the fortnight	31	270	175	—
Estimated Stocks this day	1,755	3,167	1,350	1,382

Bengal.—A good business has been done but prices have steadily declined owing to large supplies and the rise in exchange. Quotations are:—

Old Patna	\$1,005
Old Benares	965
New Patna	985
New Benares	965

Malwa.—New drug is still in demand, about 250 chests have changed hands during the interval. Market is quiet at the following quotations:—

New	\$1,110
2 years old	\$1,140
3 " "	\$1,180
4/5 " "	\$1,230
Oldest	\$1,250

Persian.—Very little doing.

COAL.

Messrs. Hughes and Hough, in their Coal Report of Nov. 3rd, state that 13 steamers are expected at Hongkong with a total of 73,600 tons of coal. Since October, 20th, 15 steamers have arrived with a total of 56,320 tons of coal. The market generally rules much firmer. Quotations:—

Cardiff	\$15.00	\$16.00	ex-ship, nominal.
Australian	\$10.00	\$11.00	ex-ship, steady.
Yubari Lump	\$12.00	nominal.	
Miki Lump	\$11.00	to \$12.00	steady.
Moji Lump	\$10.00	to \$11.00	ex-ship steady.
Akaike Lump	\$10.00	to \$10.50	steady.

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 3rd November:—Very quiet, prices are lower by \$2 per picul, with no business. Stock about 3,000 bales.

Bombay	\$18.00	to	\$19.00	per picul.
Bengal (New), Rangoon }	18.00	to	25.00	"
and Dacca	25.00	to	26.00	"
Shanghai and Japanese	25.00	to	26.00	"
Tungchow and Ningpo	25.00	to	26.00	"

YARN.

Mr. Eduljee, in his Report, dated Hongkong, 3rd November, says:—Less inquiry has been experienced during the past fortnight, but this has been expected, as the whole country is engaged in gathering the rice harvest, and will probably so continue until the turn of the month, when a large demand is looked for. It may be mentioned here that the present harvest is the best and most abundant the country has enjoyed during the last decade, and coming after a season or two of partial scarcity, trade is expected to greatly benefit thereby. Meanwhile the market again closes dull and depressed, values showing a further depreciation of 50 cents to a dollar per bale, with large and unwieldy stocks, and weak holders pressing sales.

Sales of the interval aggregate 3,115 bales, and our estimate of stocks (65,000 bales) shows a further large increase, arrivals amounting to 15,972 bales. Bombay is strong and prices have advanced $\frac{1}{2}$ of an anna.

Local Manufacture:—Continues quiet and no business has been reported.

Japanese Yarn:—There has been a brisk revival in the demand for certain chops, and the market looks on the eve of improvement, after its depression for some weeks past. Sales reported are 150 bales Sakai No. 16s at \$132, and 100 bales No. 20s at \$140; 100 bales Miki (three Rings) No. 20s at \$141; and 700 bales Settsu (Peacock) No. 20s at \$145 to \$145½.

Raw Cotton:—There is no change to note in the continued quietness of Indian descriptions. New Crop Bengals are beginning to arrive, but have hitherto found no buyers. The Cotton is full of yellow seeds and slightly darker in colour. In China Cotton sales of 450 bales (small) have been effected at \$26 to \$24½. Unsold stock 2,700 bales old and 150 bales new Bengals, and 450 bales China. Quotations are Indian \$21 to \$24 and China \$24 to \$26½.

Exchange on India has advanced in sympathy with silver and closes to-day at Rs. 148 for T/T and Rs. 148½ for Post. On Shanghai 71½ and on Japan 97½.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinnings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 28th ultimo, viz:—

Indian:—Market dull and declining, total sales 2,300 bales, depreciation in values 2 to 3 Taels, and estimated unsold stock 75,000 bales.

Japanese:—At a decline of 1 to 2 Taels about 2,300 bales have changed hands on the basis of Tls. 92½ to 99 for No. 16s, and Tls. 102 to 107½ for No. 20s. Close weak.

Local:—About 1,000 bales are reported sold at unaltered prices.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, dated Shanghai, 26th October, 1905, states:—Our market remains in the same state of stagnation as reported a week ago, and every one connected with the trade is as puzzled as ever as to what the next movement will be. Business in first hands amounts to practically nothing, if a few transactions in Fancies may count for anything, and against this clearances have been far from satisfactory. News from the various markets is not very cheerful, the only one showing any vitality being Newchwang, but we imagine present demands can easily be supplied from stocks in second hands. The Korean market is very quiet and in some quarters it is now being suspected that during the late spurt in demand they may have just overbought themselves. The Tientsin market continues clearing, in a small way, previous purchases, but we have not heard of much new business being booked. The Yangtze markets are very bad, and barring a few purchases of Indian Yarn little has been done. The Hankow market continues in the unsatisfactory condition of the past fifteen months and we hear that the dealers are now complaining bitterly against the issue of New Copper Cash, as it tends to disarrange all the economic conditions of all the Riverine Ports. Locally dealer's attentions are concerned in the auctions of flood damaged goods which still con-

tinue, although on a more limited scale. News from the Home markets show much firmness, Manchester being really strong. This state of affairs appears to have been brought about by manufacturers asking substantial advances which no one apparently is willing to pay and business, therefore, to all intents and purposes, is at a standstill. The Liverpool Cotton market is firm at 5.77d. for Mid. Orleans and 7½d. for Egyptian. From private sources we learn there is a tendency for the market to become excited as recent news has been received from New York that estimates for the American Cotton Crop are now likely to be well inside eleven million bales. The price of Cotton in New York is \$10.52 for January delivery. In Indian Cotton Yarn a small business has been done by the River Ports at weakening rates, while arrivals amounts to 8,372 bales per s.s. Arcadia.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Dioned*, sailed on 25th October. For Port Said:—25 rolls matting. For Havre or Hamburg or Antwerp:—110 boxes bristles. For London:—44 bales straw braid, 28 cases lambskin coats, 2,633 packages tea, 50 bales waste silk, 1,543 cases preserves, 375 casks preserves, 17 rolls matting, 58 cases shells, 75 packages effects and sundries, 20 cases bristles, 50 casks soy, 192 bales feathers, 225 packages merchandise, 3 packages rattan ware, 3 packages straw cuffs, 400 bales canes. For London or Glasgow:—150 casks preserves, 250 cases preserves. For London or Liverpool or Glasgow:—22 cases preserves. For London or Continent:—80 cases bristles, 2 bales kidskin crosses, 266 bales canes, 210 half-chests tea, 124 rolls matting. For Leith:—125 cases preserves. For Glasgow:—400 cases preserves, 100 casks preserves, 145 bales canes. For Amsterdam:—50 casks ginger. For Rotterdam:—200 cases cassia. For Antwerp:—20 boxes bristles, 18 rolls matting, 5 cases human hair, 250 bales leathers, 82 bales canes.

Per steamer *Zieten*, sailed on 25th October. For Colombo:—2 bales matting. For Naples:—300 bales waste silk, 85 half-chests tea. For Genoa:—280 bales raw silk, 200 bales cassia, 2 bales matting, 7 cases teapots. For Genoa or Bremen or Hamburg:—1 case hats. For Buenos Ayres:—250 packages tea. For Antwerp:—300 bales scraps, 32 bales leaf tobacco, 10 cases black-woodware, 5 packages tea, 3 cases ginger, 2 rolls matting. For Antwerp or Hamburg:—110 cases bristles. For Antwerp or Hamburg or London:—25 cases bristles. For Antwerp or Bremen or Hamburg:—288 chests tea. For Amsterdam:—190 cases ginger, 100 casks ginger, 43 casks preserves, 21 cases canes, 20 cases china ware, 10 cases fans, 9 casks preserves. For Rotterdam:—320 cases ginger, 25 casks ginger, 4 bales matting. For Bremen:—232 half-chests tea, 50 cases ginger, 8 cases sundries, 6 cases rattanware. For Bremen or Hamburg:—22 chests tea, 12 half-chests tea. For Hamburg:—157 bales feathers, 10 cases essential oil, 20 cases preserves, 13 cases ginger, 10 cases cigars, 7 cases feathers, 4 rolls matting. For Copenhagen:—900 cases cassia, 67 bales feathers, 2 rolls matting.

Per M. M. Co.'s steamer *Oceanien*, sailed on 31st October. For Marseilles:—574 bales raw silk, 351 bales waste silk, 135 bales pierced cocoons, 15 cases silk piece goods, 70 packages human hair, 100 packages tea, 10 cases hats, 17 cases ylang ylang oil, 21 bales hemp, 6 packages sundries. For Lyons:—177 bales raw silk. For Milan:—85 bales raw silk, 2 bales waste silk.

HONGKONG QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 3rd November, 1905,

Apricot	\$24	to	\$26
Borax	\$14	"	\$17
Cassia	\$14	"	\$19.75
Cloves	\$20	"	\$36
Camphor	\$130	"	—
Cow Bezoar	\$120	"	\$155
Fennel Seed	\$5	"	\$6
Galangal	\$2	"	\$5
Grapes	\$15	"	\$20
Kisnia	\$18	"	\$23
Glue	\$24	"	\$7
Olibanum	\$4	"	\$17
Oil Sandalwood	\$200	"	\$340
" Rosa	\$59	"	\$150
" Cassia	\$154	"	—
Raisins	\$12	"	\$14
Senra Leaves	\$2	"	\$9
Sandalwood	\$24	"	\$28
Saltpetre	\$11.50	to	\$12.50

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 3rd November.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/11½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/4
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/0
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/0
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	249
Credits 4 months' sight	253
ON GERMANY.—On demand	
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	48½
Credits, 60 days' sight	49½
ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer	
Bank, on demand	
ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer	
Bank, on demand	
ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight	
Private, 30 days' sight	
ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand	
ON MANILA.—On demand	
ON SINGAPORE.—On demand	
ON BATAVIA.—On demand	
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	
ON SAIGON.—On demand	
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	
SEVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per fac	
BAR SILVER, per oz.	

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 3rd November, 1905.—The market remains dull and inactive, with no special feature to report.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have ruled steady at last week's quotation, i.e. \$9 7½, but at time of writing a few small lots are obtainable at that rate, while a small demand at \$905 remains unsatisfied. Nationals unchanged.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions continuing in demand at \$755, and finding no sellers, have improved to \$760, with sales the market closing steady at that rate. Cantons remain unchanged and without business. China Traders have further advanced to \$91 after sales during the week at \$89, \$90 and \$91, the closing rate is \$91 buyers. North Chinas have been placed from the North at Tls. 91½ and Tls. 90½, closing with buyers at the latter rate. Yangtszes continue neglected at quotation.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Chinas have found further buyers at \$89 and close with a few sellers at that rate. Hongkongs are unchanged and without any business to report.

SHIPPING.—A few Indo-Chinas have changed hands at \$94. Shells have further advanced to 25s. with sales. We have nothing else to report under this heading.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars, notwithstanding the completion of the settlement, have, contrary to all expectations, failed to improve their position, and shares on offer during the week have only resulted in one or two small sales at \$220; the market closes dull with sellers at \$220. Luzons unchanged and without business.

MINING.—No change or business to report.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong & Whampoa Docks have been placed at \$180, and further shares are wanted at that rate. With shares on offer at \$181, however, the market closes quiet, notwithstanding the report that there is more business doing at the Docks than has lately been the case. Kowloon Wharves have improved to \$109 with buyers, but no shares are obtainable under \$110. An enquiry forward exists, but in the absence of sellers for cash none appear to be procurable. Farnhams have ruled fairly steady between Tls. 140 and 142, although at one time during the week the rate fell to Tls. 139. In New Amoy Docks and Shanghai and Hongkong Wharves we have nothing to report, but the latter have risen in Shanghai to Tls. 195.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—With the exception of sales of Humphreys at \$13 we have nothing to report under this heading.

COTTON MILLS.—With the exception of Internationals, which have advanced to \$45, we have nothing to report.

MISCELLANEOUS.—China Providents, Dairy Farms, Laundries and Green Islands are enquired for at quotations, but we have no business to report. Electrics are wanted in a small way at \$15 (old). China Light and Powers have changed hands at \$9½, and Watsons at \$13.75. We have nothing else to report under this heading.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

QUOTATIONS.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Alhambra	\$200	\$100, buyers
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	\$905, buyers
		London, £93.
National B. of China	25	\$38, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12a. 6d.	\$7, buyers
China-Borneo Co.	\$12	\$11½, sellers
China Light & P. Co.	\$10	\$9½, sales
China Provident	\$10	\$9.10, buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 54, buyers
Hongkong	\$10	\$14½, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 45
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 60
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 250
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$17½, buyers
Docks & Wharves—		
Farnham, B. & Co.	Tls. 100	Tls. 141
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$109, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$180, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$17
Shanghai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 195
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$27, sellers
G. Island Cement	\$10	\$25, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$29½, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$175, buyers
Do. New	\$5	\$15, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$91, buyers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$215, buyers
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$148, sales & buy.
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$50	\$235
H'kong S. Waterboat	\$10	\$152
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$30, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$89, sales
China Traders	\$25	\$91, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$340, sellers
North China	\$5	Tls. 90½, buyers
Union	\$100	\$760, sales
Yangtsze	\$60	\$172½
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$126½, buyers
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$13, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$40, buyers
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	Tls. 122, buyers
West Point Building	\$50	\$55, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$490
Raubs	18/10	\$3½, buyers
Philippine Co.	\$10	\$6, sellers
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$220, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$15, buyers
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila	\$25	\$19, buyers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$31½, buyers
H., Canton & M.	\$15	\$26½, sellers
Indo-China S.N. Co.	\$210	\$95, sellers
Shell Transport Co.	\$21	25s. Od.
Do. Preference	\$210	\$28, 10s.
Star Ferry	\$10	\$32, sellers
Do. New	\$5	\$25, sellers
Shanghai & H. Dyeing	\$50	\$50
South China M. Post.	\$25	\$20, sellers
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$8, buyers
Do. New	\$3	\$7½
Stores & Dispensaries.		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$36
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$10	\$11½, sellers
Watkins	\$10	\$6½, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$13½, sales & sell's.
United Asbestos	\$4	\$9
Do. Founders	\$10	\$160

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co., of Shanghai, in their Share Report for the week ending the 26th Oct., 1905, state:—Our market has continued very quiet and there has been no bulk of business during the week, although a number of S. C. Farnham, Boyd Shares have changed hands for December delivery. The T.T. rate on London to-day is 2/9½. This rise in exchange has tightened money, which accounts in a measure for the paucity of the business. Banks.—H. & S. Banks have been placed locally at £89.10.0, ex. 2/9. Marine and Fire Insurance.—North-Chinas have been placed at Tls. 90 and 91 for

January. A transaction was reported on the 23rd at Tls. 93.50; these quotations are cum dividend paid on the 25th inst. Shipping.—Indo-Chinas are quiet with sales for cash and the end of the month at Tls. 68 and 68½, and 69½ and 71½ December. Docks and Wharves.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd. Rates have declined slightly. The market opened with sales on the 19th at Tls. 144 and 144½ for October, Tls. 146½, 146, 146½ for December. On the 20th at Tls. 141 for October and Tls. 146½ December. On the 21st at Tls. 145 November and Tls. 146½ for December and Tls. 150 for March. On the 23rd Tls. 146½ December and Tls. 150 March. On the 24th Tls. 143½ October, Tls. 146½, Tls. 146 for December. On the 25th Tls. 142½ and 142 for October, Tls. 142½ for December, and Tls. 150 March. At closing rates are weaker and the best offer made for December shares is at Tls. 140. S. & H. Wharf Co. October shares have been placed at Tls. 188½, 189/90, December shares at Tls. 192½, 193½, 194, and close with sales at Tls. 193½. Transactions for March are reported at Tls. 198, 200, 198½, 202½, and 200. The market closes steady. Yangtsze Wharf & Godowns are reported at Tls. 190. Sugars.—The only sale reported is in Perak at Tls. 68. Mining.—Wei-hai-wei Golds changed hands at \$8 and 9, and Chinese Engineering and Mining Co. at Tls. 9½. Lands.—No business reported. Industrial.—In cotton stocks Ewos have found buyers for October at Tls. 55½ and 56, Laou Kung Mows at Tls. 61. Paper and Pulp at Tls. 145 and Gas at Tls. 125. Langkats. The market has been fairly steady during the week with sales for cash and October at Tls. 240, closing with sales at Tls. 237½ October, Tls. 237½ and 240 November and December Tls. 242½ and 240. Stores & Hotels.—Astor House Shares have been placed at \$27, and on the 24th a transaction took place at \$28. Miscellaneous.—Telephones at Tls. 57. Loans & Debentures.—Shanghai & Hongkong Wharf 6 per cent. Debentures at Tls. 97.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 3rd November.—The volume of business transacted during the period under review is larger than that of the preceding fortnight, but rates show no improvement. From Saigon to Hongkong, 9 cents nominally; to Philippines, two charters on record at 20 cents and 28 cents per picul; to Java, 22 cents last and 23 cents offering. From Newchwang to Canton, 23 cents last. From Java to Hongkong, 27 cents for wet and 24 cents for dry sugar. From South Japan coal port to Hongkong, \$1.40 per ton last; to Swatow, \$2.00 per ton. The following are the settlements:—

Coningsby—British steamer, 2,158 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.50 per ton.
Suisang—British steamer, 1,776 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.40 per ton.
Eva—German steamer, 2,081 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.40 per ton.
Poschan—German steamer, 1,825 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.40 per ton.
Elita Nossack—German steamer, 1,161 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 25 cents per picul.
Fausang—British steamer, 1,410 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 25 cents per picul.
Daphne—Norwegian steamer, 983 tons, Kuchinotzu to Swatow, \$2.00 per ton.
Hilary—German steamer, 1,276 tons, Tsintau to Hongkong, \$1.80 per ton.
Royalist—British steamer, 2,021 tons, Hongay to Hongkong, \$1.40 per ton.
Holstein—German steamer, 1,103 tons, Rehao to Canton, \$2.45 per ton.
Dundas—British steamer, 1,954 tons, five ports to North Coast Java to Hongkong, private terms.
Sophie Rickmers—German steamer, 2,262 tons, four ports North Coast Java to Hongkong, 24 cents per picul.
Windsor—British steamer, 1,853 tons, two ports North Coast Java to Hongkong, 27 cents per picul wet sugar.
Petrarch—German steamer, 1,252 tons, Saigon to one port North Coast Java, 22 cents per picul.
Amigo—German steamer, 822 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 29 cents per picul.
Broholm—Danish steamer, 817 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 28 cents per picul.

FREIGHTS.

Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s Freight Market Report, dated Shanghai, 26th October, 1905 states:—A fair amount of cargo is still going forward, and our Homeward Freight Market remains the same. Coastwise.—Coal freights remain steady at low rates, with not much doing. River freights are still very low, but nevertheless show a slight improvement. A great many steamers have left for Vladivostok at fair rates, if they succeed in getting reasonable despatch at that port, which we very much doubt.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

October—

ARRIVALS.

- 29, Ailsa Craig, British str., from Kuchinotzu.
 29, Yochow, British str., from Shanghai.
 30, Catherine Apsar, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
 30, Hanyang, British str., from Wuhu.
 30, Johanne, German str., from Bangkok.
 30, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 30, K. F. Josef L., Aust. cr., from Singapore.
 30, Loong-ang, British str., from Manila.
 30, Montcalm Fr. flagship, from Halong Bay.
 30, Oceanien, French str., from Shanghai.
 30, Pakiat, German str., from Bangkok.
 30, Telemachus, British str., from Saigon.
 30, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
 31, Benvenue, British str., from Shanghai.
 31, Borneo, German str., from Sandakan.
 31, Broholm, Danish str., from Bangkok.
 31, Choysang, British str., from Canton.
 31, Flannay Dollar, British str., from Moji.
 31, Germania, German str., from Wuhu.
 31, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
 31, Kwang-shi, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 31, Loyal, German str., from Hongkong.
 31, Sachsen, German str., from Hamburg.
 31, Taiyuan, British str., from Kobe.
 31, Tallman, Norwegian str., from Samarang.

November—

- 1, Borussia, German str., from Hamburg.
 1, Castor, Norwegian str., from Langkat.
 1, Eiger, Norwegian str., from Wuhu.
 1, Hong Moh, British str., from Singapore.
 1, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 1, Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.
 1, Pronto, Norwegian str., from Haiphong.
 1, Sultan v. Langkat, Dutch str., from Singapore.
 1, Tholma, Norwegian str., from Moji.
 2, Bengal, British str., from Bombay.
 2, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Canton.
 2, Coromandel, British str., from Shanghai.
 2, Da jin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
 2, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
 2, Hongsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 2, Keemun, British str., from Tacoma.
 2, Mad Rickmers, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
 2, Segovia, German str., from Moji.
 2, Wongkoi, German str., from Bangkok.
 2, Wosang, British str., from Tientsin.

October—

DEPARTURES.

- 29, Mercedes, British trapt., for Yokohama.
 30, Dundas, British str., for Cape St. James.
 30, Hanyang, British str., for Canton.
 30, Hongwan I, British str., for Amoy.
 30, Yochow, British str., for Canton.
 31, Andree Rickmers, Ger. str., for Bangkok.
 31, Courtfield, British str., for Kobe.
 31, Doric, British str., for San Francisco.
 31, E. A. Rickmers, German str., for Swatow.
 31, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 31, Hanyang, British str., for Canton.
 31, Hinghamton, British str., for Singapore.
 31, Katanga, British str., for Sourabaya.
 31, Kensington, British str., for Salina Cruz.
 31, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 31, Oceanien, French str., for Europe.
 31, Ponape, German str., for Yap.
 31, R. Smith, British str., for Singapore.
 31, Sachsen, German str., for Yokohama.
 31, Tean, British str., for Manila.
 31, Zoroaster, British str., for Christmas Isd.

November—

- 1, Amigo, German str., for Haiphong.
 1, Andalusia, German str., for Sintau.
 1, Athenian, British str., for Vancouver.
 1, Chibbi, British str., for Swatow.
 1, Empire, British str., for Australia.
 1, Folsjo, Norwegian str., for Chefoo.
 1, Germania, German str., for Canton.
 1, Gregory Apsar, British str., for Calcutta.
 1, Hazel Dollar, British str., for S. Francisco.
 1, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 1, Kwang-shi, Chinese str., for Canton.
 1, Loo-ok, German str., for Bangkok.
 1, Promise, Norwegian str., for Swatow.
 2, Ailsa Craig, British str., for Kuchinotzu.
 2, Benvenue, British str., for Kuchinotzu.
 2, Borussia, German str., for Hamburg.
 2, Callae, U.S. gunboat, for Canton.
 2, Choysang, British str., for Shanghai.
 2, Dakota, American str., for Seattle.
 2, Ecuador, Ger. 4-m. barque, for Newcastle.
 2, Eiger, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 2, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
 2, Kaiser F. Josef I., Aust. cr., for Shanghai.
 2, Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.

- 2, Luchs, German gunboat, for Canton.
 2, Taiyuan, British str., for Australia.
 2, Yochow, British str., for Shanghai.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Manchuria*, from San Francisco, &c.,
 Mrs. K. Anderson, Mr. E. E. Baker, Surgeon
 C. P. Bagg, U.S.N., Mrs. C. P. Bagg and infant,
 Mr. Bernard Bienenfeld, Mrs. J. H. Borland,
 Miss E. M. Buckley, Mr. Edward Cook, Dr. L.
 C. Bilkley, Misses Anna Chapman, Kittie
 Cowdery, Helen M. Freeman, Mr. H. L. Fisher,
 Mrs. M. J. Moses, Miss L. Moses Messrs.
 Frank Oldt, Wm. Patton, Mr. and Mr. W. E.
 Roddy, Mr. H. B. Rowell, Mr. and Mrs. M. L.
 Stewart, Mrs. Jean M. Vallette, Mrs. C. W.
 Vance, Mrs. T. J. Wright, Messrs. N. Y. M. da.
 D. Doabjee, J. F. Witmer, J. A. MacGregor,
 Judge and Mrs. J. D. Bicknell, Capt. J. H.
 Gordon Casserly, Mrs. J. H. Seymour, Mr. J.
 M. Cochran, Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Comstock,
 Lieut. T. M. Coughlin, U.S.A., Messrs. N. H.
 Katrack, D. H. Malagumwala, Prof. and Mrs.
 Bashford Dean, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Collier,
 Mr. L. Rosenfeld, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Castro
 and infant, Miss de Castro, Messrs. C. Bridg-
 water, W. L. Greenlees, Miss Lamar, Mr. Duer,
 Mrs. Best, Miss Moore, Messrs. Paulin Peebles,
 I. Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Cruickshank,
 H. n. Edwin W. McGinniss, Major J. V. White,
 U.S.A., Messrs. J. C. Miller, R. Lamarez,
 Jadick, Stanley, Mrs. M. M. Tibby, Mrs. V.
 Marshall, Miss E. L. Collins, Miss E. R. Collins,
 Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Barnes, Mr. C. S. Virgil,
 Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Sternfeld.

Per *Oceanien*, for Hongkong from Yokohama,
 Messrs. Judell, Erö Lund, Matsuki, Abti and
 Aly; from Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. Pireker, Miss
 Goodridge, Messrs. Boyd and Jallen, Miss
 Warokawa, Mr. and Mrs. Kronock; from
 Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Symat, Messrs. Silva
 and Van Corback, Mrs. Howe and infant,
 Messrs. Bover, Eany, Nakifushi and Lida; for
 Saigon from Yokohama, Mr. Reiman; from
 Shanghai, Mrs. Olin, Mrs. Fanny, Mr. Photo-
 wick; for Singapore from Yokohama, Messrs.
 Bozer, Bragamat, Isudo, Narayo and Ohno;
 from Shanghai, Miss Hersch and Mr. Lippiat;
 for Marseilles from Yokohama, Mgr. Berlioz,
 Mr. and Mrs. Adam and son, Messrs. Nakimura,
 Sarkies, Mrs. Sophie Mile, Messrs. Ohapuy and
 Kamiya; from Kobe, Messrs. Montefiore,
 Demetrie George and Wett; from Shanghai,
 Admiral Reizeusteni, Dr. Gladky Mr. Guerken,
 Mr. and Mrs. Pottier and 3 children, Rev.
 Richard, Messrs. K. Bertrand, Franguet, de
 Villedon, Roussel, Mrs. Basle and infant,
 Messrs. Egoroff, Zalewsky, Visser, Van
 Oudenaerde, Fauvel, Rousselot, Perdros Lopes
 and Droun.

Per *Sachsen*, for Hongkong from Hamburg.
 Mr. Franz Schmidt; from Southampton, Mr. U.
 B. Shepherd, Mrs. Frank Browne, Mrs. Foster,
 Miss J. Robertson, and Mr. Harold Petley;
 from Genoa, Mrs. C. V. Brennan, Messrs. A.
 Klein, Ch. R. Hayer, H. Wiersch, Misses
 Hedwig Schmid and Frida Pohlman; from
 Colombo, Messrs. S. N. Blair and A. S. Mihara;
 from Singapore, Rev. P. G. Graham, Misses
 Poolman and Keep, Messrs. Poolman, G. H. S.
 Boyne, Frank Browne, W. H. Grant, Fozita
 and S. S. A. Rozells; for Shanghai from Ham-
 burg, Messrs. Joh. Winter and Walter Peltrock,
 Miss A. Friesenberger, Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Bae,
 Miss E. Wilkens, Mr. Olaf Bjornnes, Miss Ela
 Krenshauff, Mr. C. H. Haste, Misses A. Beuermann
 and E. Kohler, Mr. M. O. Alberts, Miss
 Franziska Duden; from Antwerp, Mrs. Kaets;
 from Southampton, Misses Alice Milna, Lam-
 bert, Perkins, Messrs. W. J. Stevens and L. D.
 Lemaire, Misses T. McLaren, M. Biggam, L.
 Jackson, L. Button, M. Pearson, G. Limon, M.
 Tard, M. Mann, J. L. Turner, A. Bland, Doust,
 A. Settenberg, Messrs. Th. James Frances,
 Robert Scott and C. Major Cooke; from Genoa,
 Dr. Kriegl, Mrs. Evans, H. E. Chan, Sen Moa.
 Messrs. M. A. Robertson, F. S. Southey, A. F.
 Evans, Bruno Schupp, Miss A. Bernhardt,
 Messrs. Edwin Lambert, Paul Buer, Miss M.
 Gaertner, Messrs. Berthar Mazda Stiefforth,
 Carlo L. Hammermann, A. Grieb, M. Johans n
 F. Ezach, M. Pettersen, J. Gustafsson, O.
 Ahlman, Paul Vogel, Miss Maria P. H. Messrs.
 Ed. Zantop, Vila, Henri Coenen, Ad. Bron, R.
 de Groote, L. de Smedt, E. Touckheere, H. van
 de Waerde, A. Maes, E. Vloebergh, L. Keroyne,
 E. Grosse, Ek Mahien, J. Poierrie and Cagno

Leonida; from Naples, Mr. Gust. Detring, Dr.
 Timothy Richard, and Mr. C. Dixon; from Port
 Said, Messrs. J. C. Thomas Lye and Arthur
 March; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Flaum;
 from Singapore, Miss Fanny Spindler and Mrs.
 F. Joheer; for Yokohama from Southampton,
 Mr. W. Cromie James, Mrs. Fred. Wilson, and
 Miss T. x Blake; from Genoa, Messrs. A. Blas,
 E. Ohlmer, G. L. Brighton, J. Winkin and
 Henry Landis; from Naples, Mrs. Iyonne
 Liberge and Mr. D. D. Dempster; from Colombo,
 Rev. W. Muspratt; from Singapore, Messrs. T.
 McCrea, R. F. Reid, H. P. King, T. H. Sieber-
 stein and C. H. Haslewood; for Kobe from
 Southampton, Messrs. Gordon Smith and C. T.
 K. Argall; from Penang, Miss F. Kurada; from
 Singapore, Misses Tomithi, Ofusa and Murata;
 for Nagasaki from Penang, Mrs. Kurada and
 Mrs. Kawano Oyone; from Singapore, Misses
 Omitsu, Orisha, Toshino, Oyoshi, and Mr.
 Eguchi.

Per *Bengal*, for Hongkong from London,
 Miss C. Pearce, Mr. P. P. J. Wodehouse, Mrs.
 Phillips and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Gunnell
 and child, Lieut. Noncarrow, Mrs. Ford and
 child; from Marseilles, Messrs. C. B. Thomas,
 A. Tilbrake, J. Dunn, Buckley, Engr. Comdr.
 Peacock, Mr. and Mrs. Wason, Rev. Dr. Mac-
 kenzie; from Bombay, Messrs. Mohd. Choy
 Verrey, Mohd. Noor and Kavana; from
 Colombo, Mr. Guttridge; from Singapore, Lieut.
 J. McG. Taylor, Miss Gerry, Messrs. J. Perpetus,
 M. Mendess, for Manila from London via
 Hongkong, Mr. J. Mitchell, for Shanghai
 from London, Mr. and Miss Anderson, Miss S.
 Bevon, Messrs. F. W. Stewart, A. Walker
 and J. N. Little; from Marseilles, Messrs. A.
 Bolton, E. T. C. Werner, Lr. E. H. Hart and
 child and Rev. F. Brown; from Bombay, Messrs.
 D. Franje and H. E. Stanton; from Port Said,
 Mr. N. J. Garnett; from Singapore, Mr. Leo
 Premslar; for Nagasaki from London, Rev. F.
 Wilson; for Yokohama from London, Mrs. L.
 Grant, Mr. and Mrs. F. Norbury, Miss Pearson
 and Mr. W. J. Edmund.

Per *Coromandel*, from Shanghai for Hong-
 kong, Mrs. Robertson and 2 children, Mr.
 Whiteley, Miss Kennet, Mrs. Stevenson and
 Col. Wolff; for Singapore, Mr. H. Bayfield; for
 Bombay, Messrs. E. and P. Lalencia; for Mar-
 seilles, Mr. and Mrs. Comtes and 2 children;
 for London, Mr. and Mrs. Harris and 2 children
 and Mrs. Rawcliffe; from Yokohama for Brin-
 disi, Mr. F. W. Fitzgerald; for London via
 India, Mr. and Mrs. Andrews, Miss Lyttle; for
 London, Rev. F. Jackson, Messrs. J. Broad, C.
 B. Hooper, H. Maltby, J. Seddon, W. Wilson,
 A. Hydesmith, Magge and E. Corser.

DEPARTED.

Per *Sachsen*, for Shanghai, Messrs. Stickforth,
 H. Mandl, Figuerside, Cito, Meerbach, L.
 Lange and Chuang Taotai, Mr. and Mrs.
 Kellmann, Mrs. C. Moore, Miss Alves and
 Mrs. A. Pintos; for Nagasaki, Mr. and Mrs.
 Sand, Messrs. Yamamoto and Misaki; for Kobe,
 Messrs. J. A. Carvalho, Miagawa, Nakamura,
 Mr. and Mrs. Kato, Mr. and Mrs. Fujooka,
 Mrs. Moki, and Mas'or Matsui; for Yokohama,
 Miss Massey, Mr. and Mrs. Kimura.

Per *Doric*, for China and Japan ports,
 Messrs. H. A. Poole, E. W. Rutter, T. S.
 Forrest, E. D. Simon, I. Suzuki, C. E. Anton,
 G. Ibara, E. W. Mitchell, Mrs. G. J. Harman,
 Messrs. F. O. Ranney, J. J. de Gast, W. H.
 Stewart, K. Kosuga and Major Williamson,
 R. A.; for Honolulu, Mr. and Mrs. L. Schweitzer;
 for San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. W. H.
 Finch, Miss M. Campbell-Smith, Mrs. D. R.
 Smith and child, Miss Alice Huxley, Mrs. A. T.
 Smith, Mrs. A. F. Bridge, Messrs. Max Aufrecht,
 Clas W. King, F. Warren, Mr. and Mrs.
 G. H. S. Boyne and infant, Mr. W. McLaughlin,
 Mrs. Chas. T. Baker, Mrs. P. T. Williams, Mr.
 and Mrs. Chas. B. Neilson and infant.

Per *Oceanien*, for Saigon, Mr. C. J. Webster;
 for Singapore, Mr. Frederic Jones, Rev. and
 Mrs. Arthur E. Carson, Messrs. J. Adler, S. B.
 Lynn, and Rev. P. Louis Gander; for Colombo,
 Mrs. W. P. Elliott and Lieut. V. Moor Allen.

Printed and published by BERTRAM AUGUSTUS
 HALL for the concerned, at 1 A, Des Voeux
 Road Central, City of Victoria, Hongkong.
 London Office 131, Fleet Street, E.C.